

Large proportion of suits instituted for money due on contract.

150. Out of 21,841 suits entered in this table more than 14,000 were instituted for money due on contract. The table does not include the total number of suits instituted in these Courts as shown in the preceding statement; but it no doubt fairly indicates the character of the prevailing litigation. About 1-20th part of the total number of suits were connected with claims to immoveable property. The heading "Personal rights" includes suits for dissolution of marriage which are commonly brought into the courts. There were 113 such suits in the district of Myanounng; and in the district of Sandoway where there were only 340 suits of all kinds instituted, 31 of these were for dissolution of marriage.

Value of suits.

151. The following tabular statement shows the value of suits disposed of in the various Courts of the Province:—

Class of Court.	Number of suits disposed of, valued at not exceeding Rupees							Above 1,00,000.	Total value of suits.
	5	20	100	500	3,000	10,000	1,00,000		
Extra Assistant Commissioners, 3rd Class.	1627	3,303	5,583	803	1	..	..	..	5,40,387 3 4
Extra Assistant Commissioners 2nd and 1st class, and Assistant Commissioners.	763	2,047	2,092	1,248	201	16	..	..	5,94,054 7 6
Deputy Commissioners.	2	3	13	17	10	6	1	..	1,90,157 5 ..
Court of Recorder, Moulmein, and Small Causes	215	1,058	1,337	449	110	12	7	..	5,78,304 6 ..
Total	2678	6,413	9,625	2,707	328	34	8	..	18,31,778 6 4

Small value of the suits instituted.

152. The above table shows that nine thousand suits, or not far short of half the litigation of the Province were valued at sums not exceeding 20 Rupees and of 2,600 the value did not exceed Rupees 5. In the District courts there were only 300 suits valued at over 500 Rupees: of the 8 suits valued at over Rs. 10,000 all but one were instituted in the late court of the Recorder of Moulmein.

153. The manner in which the litigation was disposed of is shown in the following statement:—

Class of Court.	Number of cases brought on the file including pending from last year.	Transferred, withdrawn, adjusted or dismissed for non-appearance.	Decrees on compromise or confession.	Decrees exparte.	Judgment by default.	Decrees by arbitration.	CONTESTED CASES.		Pending.
							Judgment for Plaintiff.	Judgment for Defendant.	
Extra Assistant Commissioners .. .. .	17,608	4,501	2,945	1,023	185	234	8,372	2,370	179
Assistant Commissioners ..	1,284	273	183	129	20	18	439	161	..
Deputy Commissioners ..	55	10	3	2	..	5	28	10	2
Court of the Recorder, Moulmein, and Small Cause Court	3,445	859	355	904	..	111	820	163	243
Total .. .. .	22,452	5,643	3,391	2,047	205	268	9,659	2,710	424

The number of suits decided on their merits was 9,369, or 41 per cent of the total number of decisions. The number of suits transferred, withdrawn, adjusted, or dismissed for non-appearance of the parties was 5,643 or 20 per cent of the decisions. The proportion of suits decreed exparte or in which judgment went by default was 14 per cent, which is not high. The number in which judgment was passed by default is small.

154. The average duration of contested suits in the various courts was 26.5 days, compared with 20.4 days during 1870. In uncontested suits the average duration was 7.6 days against 6.8 days in the previous year.

155. There were 15,473 decrees passed during the year. The number of applications for execution of decrees including those pending from the previous year was 6,176, in 3,405 instances the decrees were completely executed, and 1,535 partially executed; these results are very satisfactory; 154 applications were struck off the file and 120 left pending at the close of the year.

156. The following shows the number of the processes of execution issued by the Courts:—







British Burma.  
GENERAL DEPARTMENT.  
( MISCELLANEOUS.)

---

ADMINISTRATION REPORT,  
FOR  
1871-72.

---



RANGOON:  
PRINTED AT THE SECRETARIAT PRESS.  
1873.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS.

*Para. Page.*

## I.—STATISTICS OF PHYSICAL, POLITICAL AND FISCAL GEOGRAPHY.

### A.—Physical Geography, including area, character of the surface and climate.

Geographical divisions ...	2	1
Arakan ...	3	2
Coast ...	3	2
Rivers ...	4	2
Lakes ...	5	3
Soil ...	5	3
Valley of the Irrawaddy ...	6	4
Sittoung valley ...	7	4
Coast line ...	8	5
Rivers ...	9	5
Hleing river ...	10	6
Pegu and Poozondoung rivers ...	11	6
Sittoung river ...	12	7
Beeling river ...	12	7
Canals ...	13	7
Lakes ...	13	7
Salween valley ...	14	7
Salween river ...	14	8
Attaran river ...	14	8
Gyne river ...	14	8
Tenasserim division ...	15	8
Tenasserim river ...	16	8
Area of British Burma ...	17	9
Communications ...	18	9
Roads ...	19	10
Soil, Arakan ...	20	10
Pegu ...	21	10
Tenasserim ...	22	11
Climate ...	23	12
Rainfall temperature ...	23	12

### B.—Political Relations with Native states.

Progress of Political affairs in 1871-72 ...	24	13
Changes of Political officers ...	25	13
Trading pursuits of the King of Ava ...	26	14
Object of the King ...	27	14
Injurious effect of the King's operations ...	28	14
Negotiations with the King ...	29	14
Complaints as regards practice ...	30	15
Memorials from English merchants ...	31	15



Para. Page.

No real foundation for the charges made by them ...	33	16
Progress of trade since 1867 ...	33	16
Mistakes of the memorialists ...	34	16
Embarrassments of the King ...	35	19
Coronation of the great Pagoda at Rangoon ...	35	19
Arrival of the Htee at Rangoon ...	37	20
Description of the Htee ...	39	20
Its political significance ...	39	21
Wars between Pegu and Ava ...	39	21
Importance of the Shwè Dagon Pagoda at Rangoon ...	40	22
Local arrangements ...	41	22
Carriage of the Htee to the Pagoda ...	42	22
Coronation of the Pagoda ...	43	23
Labour and expenses ...	44	24
Estimated cost ...	45	24
Good conduct of the people ...	46	25
Working of the Mixed Court ...	47	25
Telegraph in Ava territory ...	48	26
Progress of affairs at Bhamo ...	49	26
Conflicting reports of the wars between the Panthays and Chinese ...	50	27
Probable condition of Western China ...	51	27
Disturbances amongst the Shans ...	52	28
Refractory Kakhyens near Mogoung ...	53	29
Shan immigration ...	54	29
Visit of the Viceroy ...	55	29
King's Mission to England ...	56	30
Letters from the Queen, Premier, and Viceroy to the King of Ava ...	57	31
Panthay Mission from Talifoo ...	58	31
Mission to Zimay ...	59	33
Negotiation with Siam ...	59	33
Arakan Hill Tracts ...	60	34
Successful results ...	61	35

C.—Civil Divisions of British Territory.

Divisions of the Province ...	62	36
Area and population of the Province ...	63	36
Arakan ...	64	37
Pegu ...	65	37
Tenasserim ...	66	37
Towns with 10,000 souls ...	67	37

D.—Population.

Sources from whence statistics of population are obtained ...	68	38
Increase of population ...	69	38
Statement showing the increase in population during the past ten years ...	70	38
Classification ...	72	39
Emigrants and Immigrants ...	73	39
Houses ...	74	40
Population of the three Divisions ...	75	40
Average of population to square mile ...	77	40

E.—Fiscal.

Survey operations ...	78	41
Waste land grants ...	79	41
Grants made without proper enquiry ...	80	41
Report on the subject submitted to the Government of India, and the rules entirely cancelled ...	81	40
Comparative Statement of the land under Settlement ...	82	42
No Settlement operations during the year ...	83	42
The question of the settlement of land carefully considered by a Committee of experienced Officers ...	84	42
Proposals of Committee approved by the Government of India ...	85	42
Increase in the area of land under cultivation ...	86	44
Comparative statement showing the Revenue demand for two years ...	87	44
Land Revenue ...	88	44
Reasons why the rates of assessment on land should be kept low ...	89	45
No large landed proprietors in Burma ...	90	45
Rainfall ...	91	45
Inundations ...	92	45
Capitation tax ...	93	46
Land assessment in lieu of Capitation tax ...	94	46
Fisheries ...	95	47
New system of leasing fisheries introduced ...	96	47
Excise duty on salt ...	97	48
Sea Customs ...	98	48
Excise on spirits and drugs ...	99	48
Slight diminution in Excise revenue on spirits ...	100	48
Increase in the quantity of opium purchased from Government ...	101	50
Attributed to decrease in smuggling ...	102	50
Satisfactory decrease in Revenue realized from Ganja ...	103	51
Licenses for the retail vend of Ganja ...	104	51
Spirit licenses ...	105	51
Licenses for the sale of Tari ...	106	52
Change in the system of Excise introduced on 1st April 1872 ...	107	52
Stamps ...	108	53
Income tax ...	109	53
Forests ...	110	54
Marine ...	111	54
Jails ...	111	54
School fees ...	111	54
Forest produce ...	111	54
Undivided property sold ...	111	54
Fees on Civil and Criminal processes, Premium on Bills and Savings from pay of Establishment ...	111	54
Other issues ...	111	54
Remissions of Revenue ...	112	55
Collection of Revenue made during the year ...	113	55
Balance of Revenue outstanding at the close of the year ...	114	55
Theory ...	115	56



## II.—STATISTICS OF PROTECTION.

## A.—Legislative.

No Legislative powers...	116	56
Bills submitted during the year 1871...	116	56
Acts applicable to this Province passed during 1871...	117	56

## B.—Judicial tribunals.

Number of tribunals...	118	57
Detail of tribunals...	119	57
Re-organization of the Judicial Agency...	120	58
Working of Judicial Courts divided into two heads...	121	58
Court of the Recorder of Rangoon, Criminal jurisdiction...	122	58
Court of the Town Magistrate of Rangoon...	123	58
Cantonment Magistrate of Rangoon...	124	58
Court of the Recorder of Rangoon, Civil jurisdiction...	125	58
Rangoon Court of Small Causes...	126	58
Duration of Suits in the Small Cause Court...	127	58
Additional Burman Judge appointed at the close of the year...	127	61
State of the crime...	128	61
Increase in non-bailable offences generally...	129	61
Decrease in non-bailable offences in the districts of Amherst and Akyab...	130	61
Increase in bailable offences...	131	61
Comparative statement of number of persons brought to trial, acquitted and convicted in past two years...	132	62
Comparative statement of number of serious kinds of crimes in past two years...	133	62
Statement shewing per centage of convictions to persons brought to trial for serious offences...	134	63
In minor offences proportion of convictions not satisfactory...	135	63
State of files at the close of the year...	136	63
Duration of cases...	137	63
Detention of witnesses...	138	64
Punishments inflicted in the past two years...	139	63
Fines...	140	64
Appeals...	141	64
Tabular statement shewing the work of the Sessions Courts...	142	64
Duration of trials before the Sessions Courts...	143	66
Punishments awarded by the Sessions Court...	144	66
Chief Court...	145	66
Number of suits instituted, disposed of in the Civil Courts...	146	66
Small decrease in suits instituted...	147	67
The distribution of litigation among the various Courts...	148	67
Nature of litigation...	149	67
Large proportion of suits instituted for money due on contract...	150	68

Value of suits...	151	68
Small value of the suits instituted...	152	68
Statement shewing how the litigation was disposed of...	153	68
Duration of suits...	154	68
Number of Decrees and application for execution issued...	155	68
Processes of execution issued...	156	68
Small numbers of appeals...	157	70
Appeals to divisional Courts...	158	70
Appeals to the Chief Commissioner...	159	70
Registration of deeds...	160	70

## C.—Prisons.

Number of Prisons...	161	71
Number and disposal of prisoners...	162	71
Decrease in the number of prisoners transferred...	163	71
Releases on payment of fines...	164	72
Number of prisoners under 16 years of age...	165	72
Previous trades and occupations of the prisoners...	166	72
A larger percentage of prisoners sentenced for short periods than in the previous year...	167	72
Increase in the number of prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment...	168	72
Re-convictions...	169	74
Escapes...	170	74
Number of escapes less than the average of previous years...	171	74
Breaches of prison discipline...	172	75
Failure of mark-system...	173	75
Debtor prisoners...	174	75
Under-trial prisoners...	175	75
Ticket-of-leave convicts...	176	76
Overcrowding in the Jails of the Pegu division...	177	76
Health of the prison population generally good...	178	76
Prisoners very generally Opium-eaters...	179	77
Average number of persons liable to labour...	180	77
Total estimated earnings of prisoners...	181	78
Cash receipts on account of jail manufactures...	182	78
Loss on Manufactures in Moulemein and Thayet-myo Jails...	183	78
Value of stock and plant...	184	78
Average estimated earnings per head...	185	78
Earnings of prisoners employed in remunerative labour...	186	79
Proposed introduction of Jute spinning machinery into the Rangoon Jail...	187	79
Expenditure on account of Jails, exclusive of Public Works charges...	188	80
Causes of decrease in the expenditure...	189	80
Comparative cost of the Jails and Look-ups...	190	81
Explanation of the excessive cost per head at the Youngoo Jail...	191	81
Aggregate cost of the Jail department...	192	82
Education...	193	82



Area and population ... ..	194	63
Strength of Police Force ... ..	195	63
Number of offences cognizable by the Police ... ..	196	63
Decrease in murders ... ..	197	84
Decrease in dacoities ... ..	198	84
Increase in robbery, housebreaking and theft ... ..	199	84
Prevalence of cattle theft ... ..	200	85
Decrease in value of property stolen ... ..	201	85
Number of persons brought to trial ... ..	202	85
Division of cognizable offences into six great classes ... ..	203	85
Decrease in number of cases under class I ... ..	203	86
Increase in number of cases under class II ... ..	203	86
Increase in number of cases under class III ... ..	203	86
Decrease in number of cases under class IV ... ..	203	86
Increase in number of cases under class V ... ..	203	86
Necessity of some revision of the Gambling Act as regards this Province ... ..	204	86
Nearly every one impressed with the necessity of a change in the Gambling law so as to bring this mischievous habit more under control ... ..	205	87
Police arrangements in Town of Rangoon excellent during the erection of the Htee on the Shwà Dagon Pagoda ... ..	206	87
Details regarding internal management of the force ... ..	207	88
Decrease in number of men dismissed for misconduct ... ..	208	88
Men discharged for other reasons ... ..	208	88
Fewer men punished by the Magistracy than in the previous year ... ..	209	89
Rewards for good service ... ..	210	89
Details of the nationality of force ... ..	211	89
Proportion of aliens to Burmese in the Police force ... ..	212	90
Schools ... ..	213	90
Station houses ... ..	214	90
Death of two valuable officers during the year ... ..	215	90

## F.—Marine.

Number and tonnage of vessels which entered and left the principal ports of the Province ... ..	216	91
Steady increase in tonnage ... ..	216	91
Increase in steamer traffic on the Irrawaddy ... ..	217	92
Decrease in the number of boats passing up and down the river ... ..	218	92
Accidents to shipping in entering the Rangoon and Moulmein rivers ... ..	219	92
Government steamer "Nemesis" unfit for further service ... ..	220	92
No alteration in the Mail service between Calcutta and the Province generally ... ..	221	93
Mail service by steamer established on the Arakan Coast ... ..	222	93
Line of Steamers to Rangoon direct via the Suez Canal ... ..	223	93
Light-houses ... ..	224	93

## III.—STATISTICS OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

## A.—Finance.

Certain departments made over to the control and management of Local Government ... ..	225	94
Gross receipts of Revenue ... ..	226	94
Incidence per head of population ... ..	227	95
Expenditure on Civil Administration ... ..	228	95
Land Revenue ... ..	229	95
Demand on account of Land Revenue ... ..	230	96
Forests ... ..	231	96
Excise ... ..	232	97
Assessed taxes ... ..	233	97
Customs dues ... ..	234	97
Salt ... ..	235	97
Stamps ... ..	236	98
Law and Justice ... ..	227	98
Marine ... ..	238	98
Interest ... ..	239	98
Miscellaneous ... ..	240	98
Allotment from General Revenues ... ..	241	99
Jail ... ..	242	99
Registration ... ..	243	99
Police ... ..	244	99
Education ... ..	245	99
Printing ... ..	246	99
Miscellaneous ... ..	247	99
Public Works ... ..	248	99
Increase generally in Local Funds receipts ... ..	249	100
Heads of Account appertaining to other Governments ... ..	250	100
Causes of decrease and increase ... ..	251	100
Cash Balances ... ..	252	101
Disbursements, Land Revenue ... ..	253	101
Forests ... ..	254	101
Excise ... ..	255	101
Various accounts ... ..	256	102
Interest ... ..	257	102
Civil and Political Establishments ... ..	258	102
Law and Justice ... ..	259	102
Marine ... ..	260	102
Pensions ... ..	261	103
Ecclesiastical ... ..	262	103
Medical ... ..	263	103
Miscellaneous ... ..	264	103
Jails ... ..	265	103
Registration ... ..	266	103
Police ... ..	267	103
Education ... ..	268	104
Medical ... ..	269	104
Printing ... ..	270	104
Roads, Miscellaneous Public improvements, &c. ... ..	271	104
Local Funds ... ..	272	104
Remittances to India, &c., ... ..	273	104
Cash Balances ... ..	274	105
Statement of gross revenue and disbursements for the past eleven years ... ..	275	105
Annual increase in net surplus for past eleven years ... ..	276	107



Original grants	277	107
Modified grants	278	107
Expenditure	279	107
Difference between grants and expenditure	280	109
Rangoon Pagoda defences	281	109
Harbour defences and Barracks	282	110
Completion of the Magazine	283	110
Improvements to Commissariat Tank and Elephant sheds	284	110
Rifle range lengthened	285	110
Six encamping grounds provided on Prome road	286	111
Metalling roads	287	111
Military buildings inspected by Lord Mayo and Colonel Jervois	288	111
Thayetmyo. Redoubt	289	111
Artillery Hospital	290	111
Infantry Hospital	291	111
Expense Magazine	291	112
Toungoo Drainage of European Barracks	292	112
Artillery stables	293	112
Miscellaneous	293	112
Other services, Telegraph Office	294	112
Government House	295	112
Heenzada Embankment	296	113
Leymyethna and Zaloon Embankments	297	113
Kyangyeen Embankment	298	113
Surveys for new lines of Embankments	299	113
Railway	300	113
Civil Buildings, Ecclesiastical	301	114
Court Houses and Public Offices	302	114
Jail buildings	303	114
Customs	304	115
Education	304	115
Government House	304	115
General Hospital	304	115
Lock Hospital	304	115
Lunatic Asylum	304	115
Rangoon and Prome road	305	115
Bridging	306	115
Thongzai bridge	307	116
Wetpouk iron bridge completed	308	116
Prome and Meaday road	309	116
Survey of Thayetmyo and Toungoo road	310	116
Rangoon and Pegu road	311	116
Pegu and Toungoo road	312	117
Moulmein and Yeh road	313	117
Moulmein and Hline Bway	314	117
Bridge over the Sawa Creek	315	118
Martaban and Thatone road	316	118
Toungoo and Taatabean road	317	118
Metalling the crest of embankment	318	118
Oyster Reef Light-house	319	119
Thirteen piles screwed down, but the whole structure was swept away by the S. W. monsoon	320	119
Miscellaneous	321	119
Military	322	119
Communications	323	120
Akyab	324	120

Racein district. Razars	325	120
Bridges	325	120
Myanounng district. Razars	326	120
Prome district. Razars	327	120
Slaughter sheds	327	121
Thayet district. Razars	328	121
Rangoon district. Laacars' quarters	329	121
Drainage	329	121
Roads	329	121
Quay wall	329	121
Razars	329	121
Toungoo district. Groyne	330	122
Razars	330	122
Explanation of excess outlay modified over the grant for Imperial works	331	122
Agricultural grant almost worked up to	331	122
Causes of the Provincial grants not having fully expended	332	122
Oyster reef Light-house	333	122
Reasons for the Local Fund grant not being fully expended	334	123
Charges for establishment less than in previous years	335	123

## Forests.

Demarcation of State forests	336	124
Statement of area demarcated	337	124
State reserved forests	338	124
Survey of Cutch producing localities	339	124
Examination of tracts for fuel blocks	340	125
Girdling operations	341	125
Teak plantations	342	125
Cinchona plantations	343	126
Out-turn of timber from Forests within British Territory	344	126
Detail of out-turn by Government Agency	345	126
Out-turn by Permit-holders	346	126
Increase in revenue by assessing timber on the running foot principle	347	126
Increase in timber imported by the Salween side	348	126
Detail of the importation of Foreign timber	349	127
Statement of the out-turn of timber during the past five years	350	127
Revenue	351	127
Net revenue	353	128
Gross revenues during the past five years	354	128
Net receipts during the past five years	355	128
Value of outstandings added to net revenue	357	128

## D.—Agriculture.

Rice	358	129
Other food grains	359	129
Sesamum	360	129
Sugar	361	129
Cotton	361	129
Indigo and fibres	361	130



Tobacco ... ..	362	130
Toungya cultivation, mixed fruit trees and others...	363	130
Hemp ... ..	363	130
Doorian and Mangosteen ... ..	364	131
Number of Cows and Bullocks ... ..	365	131
Horses, Ponies, Sheep and Goats ... ..	365	131
Carts and Ploughs ... ..	366	131
Buffaloes ... ..	366	131
Average rent of land per acre ... ..	367	131

## E.—Prices of produce and labour.

Price of rice ... ..	368	132
Price of cotton ... ..	369	132
Price of salt ... ..	369	132
Tobacco ... ..	369	132
Bullocks and buffaloes ... ..	370	132
Price of labour ... ..	371	132

## F.—Mines and Quarries.

Locality of the principal tin mines ... ..	372	132
Produce of metal from the stone... ..	373	133
Coal ... ..	374	133
Lead... ..	375	133
Limestone quarries ... ..	376	133

## G.—Manufactures.

Steam rice mills ... ..	377	133
Timber sawing Mills ... ..	377	134
Weaving ... ..	378	134
Manufacture of salt ... ..	379	134
Gold and Silver work ... ..	380	134
Lacquered ware ... ..	381	134
Carving and gilding ... ..	382	134
Silk ... ..	382	135
Umbrellas ... ..	383	135
Cutch ... ..	384	135

## Trade.

Satisfactory state of trade ... ..	385	135
Increase in sea-borne merchandise ... ..	386	135
Decrease in treasure ... ..	387	136
Sea-borne trade of Arakan... ..	388	136
Of Pegu ... ..	388	136
Of Tenasserim ... ..	388	136
Increase in value of export trade by sea ... ..	389	136
Decrease in value of exports to Indian ports ... ..	390	137
Increase in value of exports to Foreign ports ... ..	392	137
Increase in the inter-provincial export trade ... ..	392	137
Increase in maritime import trade ... ..	392	138
Increase in imports from Indian Ports ... ..	392	138
Increase in imports from Foreign Ports ... ..	392	138
Details regarding goods imported and exported ... ..	393	138

Exports of rice by Sea in excess of any previous year	394	139
Increase in the rice trade of Moulmein ... ..	394	139
Decrease in Exports of rice to Upper Burma ... ..	394	139
Remarks respecting duty on rice ... ..	395	139
Date on which the duty on rice was increased ... ..	396	140
Shipments in the calendar year 1866... ..	397	140
1867... ..	397	140
1868 ... ..	397	140
1869... ..	397	140
1870 ... ..	397	141
1871 ... ..	397	141
1872 ... ..	397	141
Great increase in the rice trade... ..	398	141
Exports of rice to the Straits and China ... ..	399	141
Statistics of the trade from 1865 to 1872... ..	400	142
Amount of duty realized in 1867 and 1872 ... ..	401	142
Anticipations in respect to prejudicial effect of enhancement of duty not fulfilled ... ..	402	142
Exports of rice from Saigon and Bangkok ... ..	402	143
Cause of the rice of Cochin China and Siam entering European markets ... ..	403	143
Rice of less value than Burmese rice... ..	403	143
Saigon and Bangkok natural ports of supply for China, Burmese Ports for Europe ... ..	404	144
Ports of Saigon and Bangkok better suited as regards freight to the Chinese market ... ..	404	144
If Siam and Cochin China could meet demands of China no rice would be required from Burma ... ..	404	144
During 1871 and 1872 rice sent from Burma to China to supplement export from Bangkok and Saigon ... ..	404	144
Difference between the kind of rice sent to China and that shipped to Europe ... ..	404	145
If demand for Upper Burma is large there is but little rice for export to China ... ..	404	145
Great increase in number of rice mills of late years ... ..	405	145
Statement showing shipments of rice during the last ten years ... ..	406	146
Decrease in shipments from Arakan ... ..	407	146
Large increase in shipments from Pegu and Tenasserim... ..	407	146
Shipments to Indian and Provincial Ports about the same; but large increase in shipments to Foreign Ports ... ..	408	146
Satisfactory condition of the rice trade ... ..	409	147
Increase in the timber trade ... ..	410	147
Improved arrangements for the Government of the Salween Tracts ... ..	411	148
Policy thus introduced already successful ... ..	411	148
Quantity and value of cotton exported by sea ... ..	412	148
Cutch ... ..	413	149
Betelnut ... ..	414	149
Cotton twist and yarn ... ..	415	149
Increase in importation of Gunny bags ... ..	417	150
All description of piece-goods showed an increase ... ..	418	150
Statistics of trade in cotton goods ... ..	419	151
Silk goods ... ..	420	151
In woollen goods a very large increase in quantity... ..	421	151



Piece-goods from whence imported ...	422	152
Large increase in import of Salt ...	423	152
Increase in raw silk ...	424	153
Slight decrease in Inland trade owing to a falling off in demand for rice ...	425	153
Trade in Toungoo shewed an increase ...	426	153
Great want of Toungoo route is means of speedy communication ...	426	154
Export trade <i>via</i> Thayetmyo ...	427	154
Much of the merchandize shewn under the Inland trade included also in sea-borne trade ...	428	155
Increase in value of goods cleared under the treaty for Upper Burma ...	429	155
Decrease in value of raw silk, spirits and wines satisfactory ...	430	155

## K.—Charitable Institutions.

Number of dispensaries ...	431	156
Number of persons treated... ..	432	156
Number of deaths ... ..	433	156
Income ... ..	434	156
Medical College ... ..	435	156
Lock-Hospitals ... ..	436	157

## Electric Telegraph.

Number of Divisions ... ..	437	157
Reconstruction of line between Rangoon and Pegu... ..	438	157
Removal of Pegu and Shwè-gyen line to the road ...	439	157
Delay of completion of Rangoon and Prome line ...	440	158
Improvements to existing lines suggested and approved ... ..	441	158
Duration of interruptions ... ..	442	158
New buildings required ... ..	443	159
Increase in number of messages ... ..	444	159
Increase in the amount of fees realized ... ..	445	159
No decrease in fees in consequence of the introduction of new tariff ... ..	446	160
Expenditure ... ..	447	160
Reading classes ... ..	448	160
Instruction of soldiers in Army telegraphy ...	449	160

## Post Office.

Mail service between Calcutta and Burma ...	450	161
Communication between Rangoon and Madras ...	451	161
Communication with stations on the Irrawaddy, Mandalay and Bhamo ... ..	452	161
Postal Statistics ... ..	453	161

## IV.—STATISTICS OF INSTRUCTION.

## A.—Ecclesiastical.

Anglican Churches ... ..	455	161
Other Churches ... ..	456	161
American Baptist Mission ... ..	457	163
Roman Catholic Mission ... ..	458	163

## B.—Education.

Small progress in education under the English system ... ..	459	163
Statistics ... ..	460	164
Funds assigned for education ... ..	461	165
Revenue derived from the Cess... ..	462	165
Classes of Schools... ..	463	166
High Schools... ..	464	165
Proposed establishment of a Collegiate School ...	465	166
Middle Class Schools ... ..	466	166
Cess Schools and Training Schools ... ..	467	167
Monastics Schools... ..	468	168
Examiners substituted for Deputy Inspectors ...	469	168
Secular schools, male and female ... ..	470	169
Books and Inspection ... ..	471	170
Introduction of the new system ... ..	472	170
Land measuring ... ..	473	170

## C.—Scientific and Literary.

Rangoon Literary Society ... ..	474	171
---------------------------------	-----	-----

## The Press.

Newspapers ... ..	475	171
Number of books published ... ..	476	171

## V.—STATISTICS OF LIFE.

## Vaccination.

Vaccination operations ... ..	477	171
Statement shewing the working of the department... ..	478	172
Decrease in number of operations during the year... ..	479	172
Cost of the department ... ..	480	172



**REPORT**  
**ON THE**  
**ADMINISTRATION OF BRITISH BURMA,**  
**FOR 1871-72.**

---

**I.—STATISTICS OF PHYSICAL, POLITICAL AND  
FISCAL GEOGRAPHY.**

*A.—Physical Geography, including area, character of the  
surface and climate.*

---

1. The following account of the Physical Geography of British Burma is merely a repetition of what appeared in last year's report, as obviously there can be little or no alteration in a chapter treating of the Physical features and Geographical position of a Province.

2. The Province of British Burma, which extends along the eastern shore of the Bay of Bengal from the Chittagong Division of the Lower Provinces to the kingdom of Siam in 10° N. Lat., is geographically divided into four portions, Arakan, stretching from the Naf Estuary, which separates the Province from Chittagong, to Cape Negrais, and consisting of a comparatively narrow strip of country between the sea and a high mountain chain; the valley of the Irrawaddy, which divided from the Sittoung valley by the Pegu Yoma range, unites with it in its southern portion; to the eastward is the chain of hills which forms the watershed between the Sittoung and the Salween rivers; and on the west the Anouk-pek-toung-myeng, literally "the high western range of mountains," sometimes called the Arakan Yoma

Geographical  
Divisions.



range; the valley of the Salween; and Tenasserim, a narrow strip, like Arakan, reaching down to the Pakchan stream in 10° N. Lat., and separated from Siam by a lofty chain of hills running from north to south, nearly parallel to the coast, at a distance of from 30 to 40 miles inland, but approaching nearer to the sea at its southern extremity.

Arakan.

3. Arakan, originally a powerful kingdom, conquered by the Burmese, and taken from them by the British after the first Burmese war in 1825, and having an area of 18,530 square miles, lies between the Náf Estuary and Cape Negrais, and is bounded on the south and west by the sea, and on the north and east by the high chain of mountains which, forming the eastern boundary of Bengal, extends from the south-eastern extremity of Sylhet and Cachar in a south-westerly direction as far as the Fenny river, and from about the 23rd parallel of North latitude turns south-east for 360 geographical miles, when turning again to the westward of south it gradually diminishes both in breadth and elevation till it ends 15 or 16 miles south-east of the rocky promontory of Cape Negrais at Pagoda point, called by the Burmese *Hmau-deng*. This chain, though of considerable height to the north, (the Blue Mountain is supposed to be 8,000 feet above the sea level) diminishes in altitude as it reaches Arakan, and none of the passes across it, in that portion of its length, are more than 4,000 feet above the sea; the Aeng pass into the valley of the Irrawaddy is much less. From Combermere Bay, 25 miles south of Akyab, the coast is rugged and rocky, offering few harbours for ships. Kyauk-phyoo harbour, inside the island of Ramree, is safe and easy of approach, and at the mouth of the Gwa river further south there is a fairly sheltered roadstead and an inner harbour easy of access through a channel with two fathoms of water at low tide; the rise and fall of the tide is 7 feet only. The coast is studded with fertile islands, the largest of which are Cheduba and Ramree.

Coast.

Rivers.

4. Owing to the nearness of the range which bounds Arakan, there are no large rivers; the prin-

cipal ones are the Náf Estuary on the extreme west; the Mroo river, an arm of the sea about 40 miles to the eastward and from 3 to 4 miles broad at its mouth, and extending more than 50 miles inland; and the Koladan or Arakan river, rising somewhere near the Blue mountain in about 23° N. which is navigable for 40 odd miles by vessels of 300 or 400 tons burden, and on the right bank of which, close to its mouth, is situated Akyab, the head-quarter town of the Akyab district and of the Arakan division, the approach to which, however, is dangerous and difficult. Beyond this the rivers are of but little importance; they are the Talak and the Aeng, navigable by boats only, and the Sandoway, the Toungoop and the Gwa streams, the latter of which alone has any importance, owing to its mouth forming a good port of call or haven for steamers or vessels of from 9 to 10 feet draught. The whole of the rivers in the Akyab and Ramree districts anastomose by channels which, though dry in some instances during ebb tides, are all navigable for boats during the flood, the whole coast-line is, in fact, a labyrinth of creeks, and tidal nullahs which rise at the foot of the hills and receive the contribution of numerous small streams. The entrance to the Koladan or Arakan river is one which has to be approached with care by ships of heavy draught; the channel is narrow, not more than 2 miles in breadth, and there are only 3½ fathoms of water over the bar at low water springs.

5. There are no lakes properly so called, but there are some small sheets of water, the principal of which are near the old town of Arakan, the capital of the ancient kingdom, formed by bunds placed across different valleys by the former Kings, which are now all out of repair and have become marshes, rendering that portion of the country very unhealthy. The soil is mainly alluvial, in many places mixed with sand, and the rocks are composed of a dark brown sandstone, black gneiss, and brown or grey clay slate, and towards the southern portion basalt is plentiful.

Lakes.

Soil.



Except a small quantity of iron and of limestone, there are no mineral productions of any value.

Valley of the  
Irrawaddy

6. The valley of the Irrawaddy at its lower end unites with the valley of the Sittoung to form an extensive plain, stretching from Cape Negrais on the west to Martaban on the east. The watershed between these two streams is the Pegu Yoma range which, running north and south, terminates in low hills at Rangoon. The boundaries of the tract of country which compose these two valleys are the Anouk-pek-toung-myeng on the west, and the Pongloun range, rising to a height of 7,000 feet, it is said, on the east. The northern boundary line, which separates the British possessions from the territory of the King of Ava, and which is marked by a line of stone pillars, leaves the Arakan hills at a point called "the ever visible peak," and running due east passes the Irrawaddy at its 50th mile, and 43 miles further on the Pegu Yoma range; thence, after 33 miles it crosses the Sittoung, and finally loses itself in a desert of mountains 13 or 14 miles further east. The Irrawaddy valley, which is about 80 miles broad at the frontier line, counting from chain to chain, and is there so rugged that little regular cultivation can be carried on, gradually widens towards its southern extremity, and about 60 or 70 miles south of the frontier, hills which bound it have receded so far that it becomes a broad level plain, highly cultivated and the richest portion of the whole Province. Owing to the spurs thrown out by the Pegu Yoma range, the main valley is divided into several smaller ones, principally that of the Hleing river, which is almost identical with the main valley, that of the Pegu river, and that of the Poozoondoung river.

Sittoung valley.

7. The Sittoung valley, in its northern portion, resembles the valley of the Irrawaddy, and towards the south it gradually widens, leaving on the west a strip of country about 25 or 30 miles broad, covered with dense jungle, which stretches down as far south as Shwè-gyen; thence to the sea on the

western side is rice cultivation. On the eastern side there is a lower range of hills between the main range and the river to which they approach so close that there is hardly any plain; they gradually recede and leave a narrow strip for some distance below Shwè-gyen and at last end a short distance below Sittoung. From this point to the sea there is one immense plain stretching from Martaban to Cape Negrais and intersected only by rivers and tidal creeks.

8. The coast-line, which is low and flat, runs in an easterly direction from Hmaudeng or Pagoda point to Baragou point, and thence in a north-easterly direction to the gulf of Martaban.

9. The main rivers are the Irrawaddy, the Hleing or Rangoon, the Pegu, the Sittoung and the Beeling. The Irrawaddy, rising in about Latitude  $28^{\circ}$  N. and Longitude  $97^{\circ} 30'$  E., flows for upwards of 600 miles before reaching the British possessions, and thence its waters roll on for 240 miles to the sea in a S. S. W. direction. As it nears the coast, it divides, converting the lower portion of the valley into a net-work of tidal creeks. A little above Henzada, about 90 miles inland, it sends off its first branch to the westward, which, flowing past Bassein, receives the water of the Panmawaddee and of the Penglaygaylay, and bifurcating, enters the Bay of Bengal by two main mouths, the Bassein and the Thekkay-thoung rivers. This branch is navigable for large ships for 80 miles, that is as far as Bassein, which is a port of some importance. After passing Henzada it sends off a small branch to the eastward which joins the Hleing just above Rangoon. The main river then divides and sub-divides till it empties itself into the sea by 10 mouths, the Yuay, Dayaybhyoo, Pyenmaloo, Pyengazaloo, Dalla, Phyapoon, Donyan, Thanateat and China Buckeer rivers and the Irrawaddy, which is between the Pyengazaloo and Dalla mouths. The waters of the Irrawaddy commence to rise in March and continue to rise till September, when, or in October, they begin to fall, having risen from 37 to 40 feet. It is navigable for river steamers as far as



Bhamo, 600 miles beyond the British frontier. The velocity of its waters when the river is full is 5 miles an hour.

Hleing river.

10. The Hleing rises close to Prome where it is called the Myitmakat stream, and flowing in a southerly direction nearly parallel to the Irrawaddy, it gradually assumes the name of the Hleing, and finally of the Rangoon river, and flows past the town of that name, having received some of the waters of the Irrawaddy through the Nyoungdon stream. Just below Rangoon it is joined by the Pegu and Poozoondoung rivers, flowing from the east and north-east. It is navigable for vessels of the largest size for some little distance above Rangoon, but owing to the Hastings shoal, formed at the junction of the Pegu, the Poozoondoung and Rangoon rivers, vessels of more than 6 feet draught cannot come up at low tide.

Pegu and Poozoondoung rivers.

11. The Pegu and the Poozoondoung rivers rise close together in the Yoma range, about 58 miles above the town of Pegu, the capital of the ancient Taline kingdom, conquered by the Burmese under Alompra, and which gives its name to all this portion of the country. Here the Pegu river, which is almost dry during the hot season at low tides, is 105 yards broad; in its further course of 60 miles to the Rangoon river it rapidly increases in breadth, but narrowing at its mouth a bore goes up it, the effects of which are felt at Pegu. The Poozoondoung river which empties itself into the Rangoon river at the same spot as the Pegu river is a much smaller stream, being only 50 yards wide at a distance of 35 miles from its mouth. Throughout the whole of the lower portion of the valley the rivers inter-communicate so much that it is almost impossible to say that they are distinct: the Poozoondoung and the Pegu rivers are connected by many small streams; and the Rangoon river itself returns some of its waters to the western mouth of the Irrawaddy.

12. The Sittoung river rises far north of British territory, which it enters just above Toungoo; here it is narrow and navigable with difficulty for large boats during the dry season. Below Shwè-gyen, where it receives the waters of the Shwè-gyen river from the east, it gradually and slowly widens till at Sittoung it is half a mile broad. Thence it curves backward so as to form an inverted  $\Omega$ , and at last flows into the gulf of Martaban through a funnel-shaped channel, widening so rapidly that it is impossible to tell where the river ends and the gulf begins. Owing to the meeting in this gulf of the tidal wave of the Indian ocean, from the south-west, and the currents along the Tenasserim coast from the south-east, a bore with a curling crest, nine feet high, sweeps up the Sittoung river, its effect, though broken by the serpentine curve below Sittoung being felt at Shwè-gyen. The Beeling river rises in the Pongloun hills, and flows southward to the sea, entering the gulf between the Salween and the Sittoung.

Beeling river.

13. There is only one canal, which was constructed a few years ago, connecting the Pegu and Sittoung rivers. There always was a stream there, which was deepened and widened so as to allow of the passage of large boats, and a small river steamer once passed through it from Rangoon up the Pegu and Sittoung rivers to Toungoo. Of lakes there are but four, which are more properly lagoons, the Thoo lake in the Myanounng district on the west bank of the Irrawaddy between that river and the Arakan Hills, which is 8 or 9 miles round and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  across; the Lahgyin in a large low tract of ground on the opposite bank of the Irrawaddy; the Kandaugyee, or "Royal lake," near Rangoon, about 3 miles round; and the lake of clear water in the Bassein district about 5 miles in circumference, with a pretty uniform breadth of 280 to 300 yards, and a depth of from 20 to 45 feet in the centre.

Lakes.

14. The valley of the Salween is British territory only in its lower portion. The right bank of that

Salween Valley.



Salween river.

Attaran river.

Gyne river.

Tenasserim  
division.

Tenasserim  
river.

river is a wilderness of mountains drained by various streams, the most important of which is the Yonza-  
lecn; but lower down, and especially below the Thoun-  
gyeen river on the east bank there are large alluvial  
plains which are drained by the Gyne and the Atta-  
ran rivers. The Salween, though a large river, is not  
navigable owing to its rapids. At its mouth is the  
town of Moulmein, the head-quarter town of the  
district of Amherst and of the Tenasserim division.  
The Attaran rises in the chain of Hills which forms  
the boundary between the kingdom of Siam and  
British Burma, and flows in a south-westerly direc-  
tion through dense teak forests and an almost un-  
inhabited country. The Gyne which flows in a  
somewhat similar direction passes through a more  
open country, and there are numerous villages on  
its banks: it is navigable for 180 miles for small  
boats.

15. Tenasserim is that tract of country lying be-  
tween 17° and 10° N. Latitude along the eastern side  
of the Bay of Bengal, and between it and a high  
chain of hills about 40 miles inland, and includes the  
Mergui Archipelago, that is, the chain of islands  
along the coast and 15 or 20 miles distant from it.  
The surface of the country is mountainous, thinly  
populated and much intersected by streams. Be-  
tween the sea and the boundary range is another  
lower one, separated from the higher by the Tenas-  
serim river. The grand range is in some places  
5,000 feet high; its breadth at Martaban has never  
been ascertained, but further south, in the latitude of  
Tavoy, it appears to be 40 miles wide, whence it  
gradually narrows to 10 miles near Mergui. The  
whole range is covered with pathless jungle, and may  
be said without exaggeration to be without a human  
habitation of any kind. The coast is very irregular,  
and low for some miles inland, consisting of unculti-  
vated mangrove islands.

16. The Tenasserim which rises in about 15° N.  
Latitude, flows through a valley scarcely broader  
than its bed to the southward, when, after passing the

ancient town of Tenasserim, which gives its name to  
the division, it turns suddenly to the west and  
empties itself into the sea by two mouths, the north-  
ern of which is the easier navigable for large ships;  
although in 1825 the Cruiser "Thetis" sailed up the  
southern entrance as far as old Tenasserim. The  
river is navigable for boats for 100 miles.

17. The total area of the Province of British <sup>Area of British  
Burma.</sup> Burma is 93,664 square miles, of which 18,530 are  
in Arakan; 28,404 in Pegu; and 46,730 in the Te-  
nasserim division, which includes the valley of the  
Sittoung, the southern portion of the left bank of the  
Salween, i. e., the country to the eastward, drained by  
the Gyne and the Attaran, and the Eastern coast of  
the Bay of Bengal. Of this total area of 93,664  
square miles, 3,450 are cultivated. This is an  
increase over 1870-71 when 3,283 miles were under  
cultivation; but it is only 3·7 per cent, of the total  
area, and 9·5 per cent of the culturable area, which  
is 36,204 square miles, exclusive of the area in North-  
ern Arakan, which is however very limited. In  
Pegu alone there are no less than 13,418 square miles  
of culturable waste land, which only requires popu-  
lation to become as fertile as any in the world.

18. The communications throughout the Pro- <sup>Communica-  
tions.</sup> vince are mainly by water. Steamers ply on the  
Irrawaddy between Thayetmyo, Prome, Myanounng,  
Henzada and Rangoon, and a small steamer runs  
occasionally from Bassein to Rangoon. There is  
steam communication *vid* Chittagong, from Calcutta  
to Akyab, and from Akyab to the southern sta-  
tions of Arakan, also from Akyab to Rangoon and  
Moulmein. A steamer runs once a month from Moul-  
mein, south, to Tavoy and Mergui, and two other  
steamers run down to these ports once or twice a  
month from Rangoon and Moulmein. The only  
artificial water communication in the Province is  
that by the Pynakynn creek between the Pegu and  
Sittoung rivers, through which boats on their way  
from Rangoon to Sittoung can pass during the flood-  
tide.



Roads.

19. Notwithstanding the comparatively large revenue of the Province there are but 314 miles of road altogether, of which 504 miles are returned as first class and 205 miles as second and third class. In the Akyab district there are only 17 miles of first class road ; in Sandoway there are 8 miles of third class road ; in Ramree 152 miles of third class road, that is, a road passing over the Aeng pass from Pegu to Arakan, which was commenced in 1854, when a foot track was made, so that, according to the official report, a horseman could pass along the whole length of it at any pace ; this road has never been completed and has been allowed to fall into a mere path for bullocks. The earth-work of the road from Rangoon to Prome is completed, and much of the metalling is laid down, but the road is not yet bridged throughout its whole length. The road to Pegu branches off from the Rangoon and Prome road at the 21st mile and is nearly completed. A proposition to extend this road to the frontier station of Toungoo has been sanctioned and the work commenced.

Soil.  
Arakan.

20. The soil throughout Arakan is alluvial, mixed in places with sand ; the islands are of volcanic formation, and though rocky are fertile. With the exception of iron and limestone, which are found in small quantities, the former in the island of Ramree, there are no mineral productions of any value in that division.

Pegu.

21. The soil of the delta of the Irrawaddy is very rich and where cultivated gives a high return ; owing to the sparseness of the population, however, there is but a comparatively small area cultivated. The Yoma range is composed mainly of brown or grey slate-clay, alternating with beds of argillaceous sandstone assuming at times a basaltic character. Overlying the slate-clay is a bed of laterite forming an undulating tract about 13 miles wide, which when on the surface, is always covered with trees or bamboos. The Arakan range abounds in limestone, and in some portions granite, greenstone and hornblende

are met with, and further north granite or greenstone and gneiss ; quartz nodules are common. Coal has been found in large quantities near Thayetmyo, but after a careful examination by Dr. Oldham of the Geological Survey of India, it was found to be worthless, both as regards quality and quantity. In 1854 the soil in the northern portion of the valley of the Irrawaddy was reported to be well suitable for the growth of cotton, but rice is the principal cultivation.

22. The soil of the upper portion of the Sittoung valley is clayey mixed with a good deal of sand, the sand disappearing towards the south. The chief formation of the small hills is laterite, and but few rocks are met with in the low land to the west of the river. To the east of the Sittoung river large masses of rock (limestone) rise suddenly and perpendicularly out of the soil to a height of 400 or 500 feet, and from a quarter to half a mile in length, with sharp jagged ridges. These are apparently outcrops of a chain which runs N. W. and S. E. from the plains to the N. E. of Moulmein, across the Salween and Younzaleen rivers, to the inner Pongloun range. The soil of the northern portion of Tenasserim is alluvial, but not much cultivated except near the Gyne, though cultivation is spreading. Stratified sandstone is the prevailing rock in the north, intersected with veins of quartz, in which crystals of great beauty are sometimes discovered; vesicular ironstone or tufa or laterite is also prevalent, and bituminous shale is found below the rocks. At Amherst there is a granite reef which is uncovered at low tide only ; and towards the south, granite, with white felspar becomes the main formation, clay-slate and micaceous iron ore being found on the eastern slope of the hills. Still further south sandstone, grey-wacke and conglomerate, in which latter there is much iron, prevail. Fifteen miles inland, the secondary stratified formations predominate, and of these the old red sandstone is most common. Coal has been discovered in five distinct localities, and has been reported to be " well adapted for steamers having a low specific gravity, burns with a brilliant white



flame, and leaves but a very small proportion of ashes;" but owing to the difficulty and expense of removing it the seams are not worked. Excellent tin also is found, and copper ores, gold in small quantities, and ores of manganese and iron in abundance. Lead in the form of galena has lately been discovered in the hills beyond Toungoo about 24 miles south of the frontier, and on one of the Islands of the Mergui Archipelago. The ore is rich in metal, and a sample of that from Toungoo yielded on assay, a produce of silver equivalent to 20 ozs. to the ton.

23. The climate is moist, and depressing for part of the year, but cooler than India; and in some of the forest tracts it is, during the monsoons and for some time after the cold weather has set in, deadly. On the coast, however, and on the frontier, it is not an unhealthy climate, the average mortality of the European troops during the year 1871 was 12·68 per 1,000. During the first five years that troops were stationed at Tavoy (since withdrawn) not a single death from disease took place amongst the 54 Europeans there stationed, or their wives and children. The most prevalent complaints amongst Europeans are fever, dysentery and hepatic diseases, from which the Natives are by no means free. On the whole the climate of British Burma seems much better adapted to the European constitution than any part of India. The rain-fall varies considerably from 245·85 inches at Moulmein to 54·85 inches at Thayetmyo. The average temperature is greatly affected by the sea breeze; at Kyouk-phyoo, Moulmein, and Tavoy it is 80° F. at 2 p. m. in July, and at Toungoo, to the extreme north, 90° F. The rapid changes in temperature must have a great effect on the health of the inhabitants: in May the thermometer ranges from an average of 78° F. at sunrise to 86° at mid-day; in July from 76° to 84°; and in December from 67° to 83°: in Rangoon in the month of May the temperature ranges from 79° at sunrise to 93° at 2 p. m.

*B.—Political Relations with Native States.*

24. The progress of political affairs in connection with the province of British Burma during the year 1871-72 has been marked by events of some importance, especially as regards the relations of the British Government with His Majesty the King of Ava.

*Progress of Political affairs in 1871-72.*

25. Towards the end of the year 1870-71 there were some changes in the political appointments both at Mandalay and Bhamo. At Mandalay, Major McMahon had been succeeded by Captain Strover as Political Agent; and at Bhamo, Captain Spearman was appointed to officiate as Assistant Political Agent in the place of Captain Strover.

*Changes of Political officers.*

26. At the commencement of 1871-72 the King showed a great desire to engage in trade, and to establish manufactures of various descriptions within his dominions. He already had several steamers lying idle in the river in the neighbourhood of his capital at Mandalay, and his finances were believed to be at a low ebb; yet His Majesty was busily engaged in contracting with different merchants for river steamers and expensive machinery. To meet the demands on account of these expensive purchases the King was unfortunately persuaded to interfere with trade, partly no doubt from a desire to promote the general prosperity of his country, and partly in the hope of bringing into the Royal treasury the greater portion of the profits of the trade with British Burma. He was led on by degrees until at length he took the false step of endeavouring to induce European merchants to give him guarantees that they would sell their imports of piece-goods and other commodities, only to him or his agents; whilst the Chinese traders, and bazaar dealers generally, were also persuaded to give similar guarantees that they would buy all their piece-goods from the royal brokers.

*Trading guarantees of the King of Ava.*



Object of the King.

27. One main object of the King was no doubt to stimulate and extend the trade in his dominions, and appear before the world as a royal patron of commerce; but he endeavoured to accomplish this end by measures which involved him in difficulties and complications that could only terminate in loss and failure. He professed himself anxious to remove all complaints as regards unsold stocks and insolvent debtors, by taking upon himself the whole responsibility; that is by purchasing all stocks at invoice rates, plus cost of freight and five per cent commission, and by insuring the risk of all bad debts which importers might otherwise have incurred in their dealings with Chinese and Mo ul traders.

Injurious effect of the King's operations.

28. The first result of these measures was that piece-goods were sold very largely. They were in fact purchased by the King in quantities far exceeding the legitimate demand, and consequently the market became depressed. It was impossible for him to sell as fast as he bought; and he began to give away the goods to his troops and servants in lieu of pay; and the latter in their turn tried to convert the goods into cash by selling them in the bazaar for whatever they would fetch. These forced rates soon caused a glut in the market; they were of course ruinous to the bazaar dealers who had given full market rates to the King, and who found their stocks remaining unsold on their hands. They accordingly complained to the Political Agent that the King had created a monopoly of trade in contravention of the terms of the treaty.

Negotiations with the King.

29. Neither the Political Agent nor the Chief Commissioner could afford these traders immediate redress. It was obvious that the British Government could not exercise its authority to prevent the King from buying or selling piece-goods like any one else if he chose to do so, and though his position and capital gave him an unfair position, the right of all others to sell and buy was not questioned, though practically it was restricted. It was equally obvious that the royal trade in piece-goods

bore no resemblance to those royal monopolies in every kind of produce, which had been especially surrendered under the treaty of 1867. Captain Strover however, frequently tendered friendly advice to His Majesty upon the subject, but for some time without effect. The King was apparently surrounded by bad advisers, who were leading him astray from interested motives. At length His Majesty found that, as warned by the Political Agent would be the case, he was a heavy loser through his commercial operations and was by no means acquiring the reputation he had anticipated by the unhealthy stimulus he had imparted to the trade in piece-goods through his wholesale purchases. Accordingly he at last yielded to the friendly remonstrances of the Political Agent, and cancelled the several guarantees he had received. The result was that the trade returned to its old channel, and accommodated itself to the laws of supply and demand. It would be difficult to estimate the losses which were incurred during the interim; but the Chief Commissioner is of opinion that they have been much exaggerated, and that His Majesty was himself the chief loser. It must be borne in mind that for the greater part of the year there were disturbances amongst the Shans which put a stop to all trade in that direction.

30. Meantime other complaints were cropping up, in which the King was not so much to blame, as his own servants and officials in the provinces, over whom it is always difficult to maintain an efficient control. It appears that the King had made advances to the cultivators, which were to be repaid in produce at rates to which the cultivators agreed, actuated partly by the desire of an early advance, and partly under the influence brought to bear on them by the King's servants. The system was not very different from that under which indigo planters used to obtain a lien on the crops of the cultivators of Bengal. The consequence was that merchants in general found a difficulty occasionally, in purchasing catch, rice, cotton and grain, which they often found had been taken up on the King's account before they entered the market. No doubt, in a coun-

Complaints as regards produce.



try where such an irresponsible despotism prevails as in Burma, merchants must sometimes find a difficulty in competing with the sovereign if he is disposed to trade; whilst the officials in the provinces brought their influence to bear upon the cultivators, in the hope of pleasing the King who was known to be urgently in want of produce for export, in order to meet his heavy liabilities to merchants and contractors. But no case has been brought before the Chief Commissioner, based on authentic data, which amounted to an absolute breach of the letter of the treaty, or which warranted any direct interference on the part of the Political Agent, though remonstrances and advice were not spared.

Memorials from  
English mer-  
chants.

31. Some imperfect accounts of these proceedings appear to have reached certain mercantile firms in England, who accordingly submitted a memorial to the Home Government, alleging that the King was acting contrary to the treaties of 1862 and 1867. It was urged that these breaches of treaty had caused a complete stagnation in trade, and induced the traders to send back their goods to Rangoon; and that they had also neutralised any effort which had been made for opening up a trade with Western China *via* Bhamo. It was even asserted that the King had issued a Royal Edict requiring all producers to sell only to his agents; and all dealers in piece-goods to buy only of his agents, under pain of getting no redress in his Courts in the event of their having any disputes with their customers.

No real founda-  
tion for the  
charges made by  
them.

32. The extent to which the King has interfered with trade has already been explained; and it will have been seen that although the action of the King is to be lamented, especially as it has entailed considerable loss on himself, yet there is no real foundation for the grave charges which have been brought against his Government.

Progress of trade  
since 1867.

33. With reference to these allegations, the Chief Commissioner reviewed the progress of trade with Upper Burma since the treaty of 1867, in a dispatch from which the following passages are extracted:—

(5.) “The importation into Mandalay in the year immediately following the treaty was, as might have been expected, excessive. The trade of 1866-67 was destroyed by the rebellion, and naturally in 1867-68, the first year of the treaty, there was a reaction; stocks in the local market, which were exhausted, had to be replenished throughout the country; in addition to this there was an exaggerated notion of the extent to which trade would be opened through Burma with China, and speculative importations were made, which fully account for the dullness of the market.

“In 1868-69, there was, as the result of these overimportations, a falling off of a little over two lakhs of rupees in the value of European goods imported into Upper Burma, but the quantities of twist and yarn, and cotton piece-goods were far in excess of even those of the previous year. In 1869-70, the trade, chiefly however in miscellaneous goods, increased to the extent of upwards of 11½ lakhs of rupees, but there was again a falling off in 1870-71; in the year 1871-72 which has lately closed, there is an increase, especially in values. There is this undoubted fact, that the exports of European goods from British to Upper Burma, increased in value from Rs. 33,73,765 in 1866-67, to Rs. 69,90,968 in 1871-72, which shows a higher figure than any preceding year except 1869-70, and the great item in that year was not in piece-goods, or in the main staples of export, but in miscellaneous goods, which represented a value of Rs. 29,17,600, against Rs. 16,12,341 in 1871-72. A statement showing the value of goods cleared through the Rangoon Custom House direct for Upper Burma at one percent. duty, since 1867-68, is appended, from which it will be seen that the value has increased from Rs. 55,902, in that year to Rs. 33,21,030 in 1871-72.

(6.) “But if the exports to Ava can be shown to have been such as to refute the statements of the memorialists as to the stagnation of trade during the past year, what must be said when the table of imports from Upper Burma to British Burma is examined. The value of goods of the classes which are received from Upper Burma and shipped to Europe, increased from Rs. 9,48,155 in 1867-68, to Rs. 26,62,941 in 1871-72. This increase has been a steady increase from year to year. The import of cotton has increased from 20,019 maunds in 1867-68, to 152,689 maunds in 1871-72. These figures relate to the sea-borne trade. But if the state of the whole trade between Upper and Lower Burma is considered, it will be found that the trade between the two countries in 1871-72, was Rs. 231,99,938 against Rs. 211,45,047 in 1868-69, and against Rs. 155,99,053 in 1865-66. The trade of 1867-68 was greater, but that was because the trade had been suspended in the previous year in consequence of the rebellion, and abnormally large shipments of grain were made from our territory.

(7.) “The value of the total imports from Upper Burma into British territory was Rs. 110,48,330 in 1871-72, against Rs. 88,20,970 in 1868-69, Rs. 90,53,980 in 1869-70, and Rs.



"101,47,692 in 1870-71. What greater development of trade than this the memorialists anticipated it is impossible to conceive. The memorialists lay great stress on the fact that in giving up the frontier duties we anticipated that the loss would be covered by the stimulus which would be given to trade on the abolition of these imposts, and though they do not go so far as to say in so many words that this expectation has not been fulfilled, they seem to be under the impression that it is so. Whereas in point of fact, our trade with Upper Burma has increased from Rs. 93,06,800 in 1862-63, to Rs. 231,99,838 in 1871-72."

34. The Chief Commissioner next dealt with the specific statements of the memorialists. He pointed out that no Royal Edict of the character stated had been issued. An Edict, certainly, was promulgated on the 31st May 1871, but it simply abolished all duties on produce within Ava territory, and proclaimed the establishment of free trade. Moreover, had any such Edict been issued, it would have attracted immediate attention, as being a direct infringement of the treaty of 1867, under which the Mixed Court had been established at Mandalay for the adjudication of all cases between British and Burmese subjects. Again, it was pointed out, there had been no real stagnation of trade caused by the King's action, as far as the importation of piece-goods from Europe was concerned. On the contrary, more piece-goods had been sold; but the local retail trade had been for a short time, depressed from the causes already indicated. A small quantity of goods had been returned to Rangoon as unsaleable; that is, some thirty or forty cases had been sent back in 1871, and some few cases in 1872; but such returns are by no means uncommon in a new trade; as mistakes must occur occasionally as to the nature and extent of the real demand. Indeed, considering that the trade with the Shan States was brought to a close by the disturbances, it is only surprising that more goods were not sent back to Rangoon. The allegation that the King was obstructing the trade with Western China was questioned in like manner, and it was shown that His Majesty had been actually sending large quantities of cotton and other produce to Bhamo, whilst a brisk trade was being carried on by the Chinese. On the other hand no English

firm has sent a single consignment of goods to Bhamo since 1870, and the trade has thus passed entirely into the hands of the Chinese, and perhaps on the whole, this is the most natural channel. It may be added that so far from obstructing the trade-route, the King has taken active means to keep it open. He has built posts or guard-houses along the Tah-pen river, and established posts across the Kakhyen hills. Again at Bhamo he has re-built the old store-house for cotton, which had been in ruins and unused for many years.

35. It cannot be denied that the commercial operations of the King have had a mischievous tendency, but it would be unreasonable to expect that the advanced views which prevail at Manchester, as to the legitimate limit of State interference with trade, should already prevail at Mandalay. And there is no denying the fact that any mistakes which His Majesty may have committed, are entirely due to the evil advice and representations of interested parties, who have enticed him into schemes and contracts, far in excess of his requirements or resources. He has thus been tempted to engage in trade to meet his liabilities, and compelled to assign large quantities of produce to European contractors. It is also to be feared that the extraordinary outlay on his recent embassy to England will add to his embarrassments, and result in measures which will prove to be equally opposed to the material interests of his subjects, and the development of a healthy free trade between the two countries.

36. Next to the progress of trade in Upper Burma, perhaps the most interesting event during the past year was the coronation of the great Pagoda at Rangoon. In the Administration Report for 1870-71, an allusion was made to a curious ornament of gold and jewels, known as the Htee, or umbrella, which the King was desirous of presenting to the famous Shwè Dagon Pagoda at Rangoon. Nearly all the pagodas in Burma are surmounted by this ornament, which is the symbol of royalty or sovereignty; and

Embarrassments of the King.

Coronation of the great Pagoda at Rangoon.

Mistakes of the memorialists.



no doubt it is placed on the summit of Buddhist temples as a mark of reverence to Gautama Buddha. This particular Htee for the Shwé Dagon Pagoda, was to have been sent to Rangoon in 1870, and indeed the preliminary arrangements had been settled. But some political significance was found to be attached to the fact of the King of Ava placing a new Htee on the most famous Pagoda in British territory; and this point was absurdly exaggerated by mischievous and intriguing men, and caused considerable alarm amongst a credulous and excitable people like the Burmese. Fears were also naturally entertained that dacoits and other troublesome characters would take advantage of the expected concourse at Rangoon to create disturbances. Accordingly, the King postponed sending the Htee until the public mind should have quieted down, and his action in the matter be better understood.

37. In 1871 the alarm and excitement had died out, and early in October the Htee was sent down from Mandalay, on board a barge and steamer belonging to the King, under the charge of a Woondouk, or Assistant Minister of State, with minor officials and followers, aggregating ninety-three in number. Whilst passing through the King's dominions the Htee seems to have been an object of worship wherever the steamer anchored; but on entering British territory it excited less attention than could have been expected; and the King's officers expressed some disappointment at the absence of religious feeling in British Burma. On the 22nd of October, the Htee arrived at Rangoon, and was landed and placed under a temporary structure on the Strand, preparatory to being conducted to the Shwé Dagon Pagoda, which is situated about a mile and a half from the river.

38. The Htee consists of seven successive tiers or circular terraces, which bear some resemblance to inverted tambourines, and rise one above the other in diminishing sizes, until they terminate in a spire, which stands upon the uppermost tier, and carries a

flag or vane. The framework of the several tiers in this singular tower is of wrought iron, but the whole is covered with solid gold plating, studded with precious stones; the lowest tier is 13½ feet in diameter, and weighs a ton and one-third. The whole Htee is 47 feet in height.

39. It may here be as well to explain the origin of the political significance, which was supposed to be attached to the ceremony of placing the Htee on the summit of the Shwé Dagon Pagoda. The two most famous temples in Burma are the Shwé Dagon Pagoda at Rangoon, and the great Pagoda in the city of Pegu. Now the town of Rangoon, formerly called Dagon, was an ancient port, and an emporium of the commerce of the Indian and Malacca peninsulas. The town of Pegu was on the other hand more inland, and the capital of the Talain kingdom of the same name and metropolis of Talain nationality. Thus, the Shwé Dagon Pagoda at Rangoon was the great resort of Buddhist merchants and pilgrims from all parts by sea, and a centre of trade as well as of religion; and its magnificent dimensions still certify to the opulence of Asiatic traders in by-gone times. The pagoda at Pegu was more the resort of the Talain sovereign and his court; and would be thus regarded as a centre of national worship and associated with the ancient glories of the Talain kings. Northward of the Talain kingdom of Pegu was the Burman kingdom of Ava; and for centuries the whole valley of the Irrawaddy was desolated by the bloody wars between these two kingdoms. Sometimes the Talains conquered Ava, and at others the Burmese conquered Pegu. Thus from time immemorial the imperial suzerainty over the whole valley, from the Chinese frontier to the Bay of Bengal alternated between Pegu and Ava. In the 17th century the Burmans reigned over both Ava and Pegu. In the first half of the 18th century the Talains recovered possession of Pegu, and then extended their empire over Ava. Between the years 1750 and 1760 there was another revolution. Alompra the hunter, raised a revolt in Ava, drove out the Talains, and then con-

its political significance.

Wars between Pegu and Ava.



quered the lower valley, including the cities of Pegu and Dagon. He was the founder of the dynasty of Burmese kings, which is still reigning at Mandalay.

Importance of  
the Shwé Dagon  
Pagoda at Rangoon.

40. Thenceforth the political object of the Burmese conquerors of Pegu was to transfer all the religious and national associations of the Talains from the capital at Pegu, to the city of Dagon, which became known as Rangoon, or the "victory is complete," and was regarded as the new capital of the Pegu province. In the reign of Tsinbyoo Yen, the second son of Alompra, the Talains rebelled; but the Burmese king suppressed the revolt, and in 1774 asserted his sovereignty by the ceremony of placing a new Htee on the summit of the Shwé Dagon Pagoda at Rangoon, and beheading the captive Talain king of Pegu. Again as late as 1841, when king Tharrawaddy was preparing at Rangoon to make war upon the English, he greatly added to the decorations of the Htee, and thus connected the renovation of the Htee with hostile proceedings against the British Government.

Local arrangements.

41. It was from these circumstances that the ceremony of placing a new Htee on the Shwé Dagon Pagoda, was associated in the Burmese mind with the assertion of sovereignty. In the present instance however, the ceremony was to be performed in British territory and was therefore carefully divested of all political significance. The King was induced to make over the Htee to the Chief Commissioner who in his turn made it over to a committee of Elders of the town, who undertook to superintend the process of carrying the Htee to the Pagoda, and placing it on the summit of the shrine. The religious part of the ceremony was thus left entirely in the hands of the Rangoon Elders, subject only to the necessary arrangements of the local authorities for the maintenance of order and tranquillity.

Arrangement of the  
Htee on the Pagoda.

42. The time chosen for placing the Htee on the Pagoda was a great yearly festival in the full moon of the month Tasoungmong, when enormous crowds

of Burmese flock to Rangoon to worship at the Shwé Dagon Pagoda; and this circumstance no doubt largely increased the excitement which was soon caused by the presence of the Htee. On the 23th October, the Htee was carried with great pomp from the temporary building on the Strand to the house prepared for it on the upper platform of the Pagoda. The Htee, consisting of ten pieces, was taken down, and each piece was carried along on a kind of triumphant stage; whilst the people crowded around to offer their shoulders to the burden, and thus to take as large a share as possible in what was regarded as a pious work. Each piece had a procession of its own, including bands of dancers, well and tastefully dressed, composed of young men of respectable families from each quarter of the town. The whole length of the road, a mile and a half in extent, was lined with white cloth which had been contributed by a pious resident of the town. The procession consisted of 50,000 persons and lasted six or seven hours, but it was singularly orderly and well conducted.

43. From the 28th October until the 26th of November, the people were gathering to Rangoon from all parts of the country, and flocking to the Pagoda in crowds. Meantime arrangements were being made for bringing down the old Htee of 1774, and carrying up the new one of nearly a century later. The Shwé Dagon Pagoda is situated on the spur of a hill which overlooks Rangoon, and alone furnishes a considerable natural elevation. The structure rises above this hill in three successive terraces or platforms. The upper terrace is an oblong of 900 feet long by 700 broad, and stands at an elevation of about 76 feet from the roadway, at the foot of the steps which lead to the Pagoda. Several little chapels are built on this platform, and in the centre rises the Pagoda properly so called, consisting of a solid cone of brickwork; octagonal and terraced for the first 95 feet, and then taking a circular form, and rising up 217 feet more to the summit. The top of the Pagoda is thus 388 feet above the roadway, but only 312 feet

Coronation of  
the Pagoda.



above the upper platform. The great difficulty in the coronation was to carry the different pieces of the Htee up the outside of the great solid cone of the Pagoda proper. This was accomplished by covering the cone with a huge basket-work of bamboos, and then constructing a roadway of six strong ropes, which ran in an incline plane from a point on the platform to a point on the upper part of the cone. A carriage ran up this roadway on pullics, and brought up each portion of the Htee in succession, which was then elevated to the summit by a crane.

Labour and ex-  
pense.

44. The labour and expense of these proceedings must have been very great, but were entirely gratuitous. Hundreds of wooden poles, besides fifty thousand bamboos, and seventy boat-loads of canes, were used in the construction of the scaffolding. The labour was distributed amongst different bodies of workmen and artisans, each having its own headman, and performing its allotted portion without pay or emolument, beyond the religious merit which was supposed to attach to the task; whilst every working man was duly supplied with daily provisions at the expense of other pious contributors, to whom the merit was the only reward. For the work of dragging at the ropes, which drew up the different pieces of the Htee, there were always thousands of volunteers, young and old, who were only too anxious to lend a hand. Meantime, the Woondouk and the officials and followers who accompanied him, were entertained in temporary buildings which had been constructed for their reception; but they took little or no active part in the proceedings, beyond watching the ceremony, and writing down full particulars for the information of their royal master.

Estimated cost.

45. The value of the Htee, as it was presented by the King of Ava, has been estimated at £62,000; of which gold and jewels to the value of £4,000 were furnished from the old Htee. In addition to this amount, the residents of Rangoon contributed money and jewels, as well as labour and provisions, to the estimated value of £25,000. The golden vane on

the summit was the most costly portion of the whole Htee, considering its size. It was decorated with jewels, and was valued at £4,000, of which £2,500 was contributed by the ladies of the palace at Mandalay, and £1,500 by different natives of British Burma.

46. Throughout the whole period of the festival season, during which the ceremony was performed, the native population of Rangoon seems to have nearly doubled. There was always a crowd of some 30,000 persons on the platform of the Pagoda and in its immediate neighbourhood; and on some occasions the number is said to have reached 100,000. There was of course much religious excitement and rejoicing. Young women scattered flowers on the Pagoda platform, and the roads leading to it. Others carried silver vases of scented water, which they freely scattered about amongst the crowds of spectators. Others again distributed sherbet, lemonade and other cooling drinks, as well as parched rice and other simple articles. Many of the more zealous worshippers were noisy and demonstrative, and filled the air with shouts of triumph, or were engaged in beating drums and clashing cymbals, or giving vent to their enthusiasm in wild dancing. But amidst all these distractions the work of crowning the Pagoda was carried steadily on. Day by day, processions of artisans and labourers proceeded to their allotted labour, arrayed in white garments, with sacred white flags in their hands, displaying an earnestness and sobriety which was one of the most characteristic features of the ceremony. Fortunately the accidents were comparatively few in number, considering the perilous character of much of the duty that was performed. On the whole the conduct of the mixed assemblage was most satisfactory. The people, amidst their loudest rejoicings, were always singularly amenable to the control of the local authorities; and it was gratifying to know that throughout the entire festival season, there was not only no increase of crime in Rangoon, but an actual diminution in the average number of offences.

Good conduct of  
the people.



Working of the  
Mixed Court.

47. The remaining events of the year in connection with the Court of Mandalay call for little notice. For some time the Mixed Court at Mandalay did not work quite satisfactorily, in consequence, it is believed, of the inexperience of the Burmese judge, who sits on the bench with the Political Agent in all cases in which Burmese as well as British subjects are concerned. This, and perhaps other causes, seem to have necessitated too many references to the Burmese Ministers. The King, however, has lately shown a sincere desire to carry out the reforms which have been suggested by the Political Agent, and to invest the Court with more independence and freedom of action, so that the Chief Commissioner confidently hopes that there will be no further complaints.

P-26  
✓  
Telegraph in  
Ava territory.

48. During the past year the King has occasionally spoken to the British Agent respecting the line of telegraph which he has constructed in his dominions, but did not appear to arrive at any definite conclusion as regards maintaining its efficiency and connecting it with the wires in British territory. For a long time His Majesty expressed himself desirous of securing the services of an English Telegraph Officer, who should not only be qualified to construct a line and superintend its operations, but also be able to manufacture all the apparatus and material, and teach that manufacture to his own subjects. The Chief Commissioner is glad, however, to state that the King has lately arrived at a more just idea of his requirements; and that arrangements are nearly completed under which, it is hoped, telegraphic communication between Mandalay and British territory, and the consequent connection of Ava with the rest of the civilized world, will be placed on an efficient footing before the close of the current year.

Progress of af-  
fairs at Bhamo.

49. The progress of affairs at Bhamo during the past year is also of considerable interest. In March, 1871, Captain Spearman succeeded Captain Strover, as Assistant Political Agent, and remained in charge until the conclusion of the year under review.

50. It will be remembered that the agency was established at Bhamo about the end of 1869 for the purpose of re-opening the old trade-route with Western China, which was brought to a close some twenty years ago by the devastating wars between the Panthays and Chinese. From the conflicting accounts which reach Bhamo, the termination of hostilities would seem, when the past year closed, to have been as far off as ever. Two contradictory classes of reports are perpetually being carried to the Assistant Political Agent; the one emanating from the Kakhyens, who occupy the hills between Bhamo and the Panthay frontier city of Momein; and the other emanating from the Chinese merchants, who trade between Bhamo and Yunan, and the Burmese authorities resident at Bhamo. The Kakhyens bring in frequent reports of Panthay successes, and Chinese reverses. The Chinese and Burmese, on the other hand, bring in reports that Panthay towns have been captured and sacked by the Chinese, and that Panthay influence is being destroyed, or at any rate is on the decline in Yunan.

Conflicting re-  
ports of the wars  
between the  
Panthays and  
Chinese.

51. The actual state of affairs in Western China can thus only be inferred. It would appear that during the past year, whatever may have since occurred, the Panthays were in complete and peaceable possession of the whole of the north and centre of Yunan; but that on the south, and especially on the south-eastern and south-western confines, they were harassed and hard pressed by various parties of Chinese. These Chinese however are not, it is believed, imperial troops, acting under the immediate orders of the court of Peking; nor indeed has there been any regular Chinese army operating in any part of Yunan; they are irregular bands of Chinese marauders, commanded by chiefs, who have not, it is understood, been commissioned by the Imperial Government, although they may have been encouraged and supported by the mandarins of neighbouring provinces. But whilst the Panthays are thus assailed on the north, they are still in possession of some important towns and have till very lately held

Probable condi-  
tion of Western  
China.



them by strong garrisons. Sometimes four or five independent Chinese bands join together and invest a town, such as Momein and Yoneshan. Yoneshan seems to have been taken, so far as the evidence on that point is to be believed, while no doubt the garrison of Momein is in a very precarious condition, and is not likely to be able to hold out long.

Disturbances  
amongst the  
Shans.

52. The Shans and Kakhyens, who are nominally under the suzerainty of Ava, appear to acknowledge their vassalage in the inverse ratios of their distance from Mandalay. During the past year the Shan ex-Tsaubwa of Theinnee, has created much disturbance. This locality is situated inland, between Bhamo and Mandalay north and south, and between the upper courses of the Salween and Irrawaddy rivers, east and west. The insurrection of the Shans has been suppressed, but Bhamo was so denuded of troops during the interval, that the Kakhyens also commenced their raids, and Bhamo itself is said to have been more than once in danger. The Woon of Bhamo has now put an end to these disorders, and the town has escaped the raiders.

Refractory  
Kakhyens near  
Mogoung.

53. The Kakhyens, as already stated, are more troublesome the further they are removed from the capital; and during the past year, the tribes in the neighbourhood of Mogoung have been even more refractory than those in the neighbourhood of Bhamo. Mogoung is a remote locality, about seventy miles to the north of Bhamo. It is a place of exile for political prisoners; and amongst others, there is a colony of Assamese who were carried away captive in the old wars between Assam and Ava, and were located in this place. Mogoung is however, likely to attract future attention from its proximity to the amber mines, which are or were worked by the King, and are situated still further to the northward. Early in the year the Kakhyens attacked a town to the northward of Mogoung, and killed the Tsit-kay or local officer; and the Woon of Mogoung was compelled to send a force of 500 men against them. They are however frequently committing outrages;

but this appears to have been the normal state of the tribes for generations. It is now reported that they have closed the amber mines, and carry off small quantities of the amber for sale in their villages on the bank of the river. In several reaches in the first defile, which intervenes between Bhamo and Mogoung, they have committed raids on ascending boats. They crouch down in the long grass, and when a boat is struggling up against the strong current along the bank, they suddenly open fire and rush to it and carry off everything. When a boat however, is descending the stream, it is safe from such attacks, as it proceeds rapidly in the centre of the current, and the Kakhyens have no boats in which to approach them.

54. The immigration of Shan cultivators into British territory still continues, though it is not very active; and under arrangements with the Irrawaddy Flotilla and Burmese Steam Navigation Company, free passages for twenty-five immigrants may be granted by the Assistant Political Agent at Bhamo on board any steamer leaving that place for Rangoon. Under the orders of the Chief Commissioner, an officer has been told off to receive all such Shans on their arrival in Rangoon, and land is marked out for them, and the necessary advances made through their headmen. The Chief Commissioner also contemplated the construction of a house for their temporary reception at Rangoon; but found on enquiry that the new arrivals generally proceeded at once to the villages where Shan immigrants had already settled; whilst those who were unable to leave immediately, passed the night at the house of the native Town Surveyor, who is on friendly terms with the headman, and willing to receive all Shans who come to him.

Shan immigration.

55. The commencement of 1872 will long be remembered in Burma, in connection with the visit to the Province of His Excellency, the Earl of Mayo, Viceroy of India; an event which promised to prove one of vast importance in the history

Visit of the Viceroy.



of the Province, but which met with so sad a termination. The Viceroy's visit was looked forward to with the utmost enthusiasm by all classes of the community. Lord Mayo was the first Viceroy who had visited Burma, and the only Governor General who had done so, excepting the Marquis of Dalhousie. His Excellency landed at Rangoon with a large suite on Monday the 29th January 1872, and was received by the chief authorities of the Province with every honour. The whole town was decked with flags, streamers, garlands, triumphal arches, and tastefully decorated colonnades, whilst congratulatory addresses were presented by every class, including Europeans, Burmese, Moguls, Chinese, Suratees, Hindus, Arakanese, Karens and Shans. The festivities which followed were continued until Saturday the 3rd February. During the interval His Excellency inspected the Jail, the Barracks, the Schools, and the Rice Mills, and visited every institution of public interest in Rangoon. He also attended several entertainments, including a Burmese drama, in which the principal performers were sent from Mandalay by the King; and he held levees for European and Burmese gentlemen, and numerous receptions of different public bodies. From Rangoon the Viceroy proceeded to Moulmein, and on the 5th February left Burma. On the 12th the sad tidings of his assassination at Port Blair reached Rangoon, and excited a profound and universal sorrow on which it is unnecessary to dwell, but which was much intensified by the impression which had been left on the minds of the people by His Excellency's visit.

56. In March 1872, the King of Ava despatched a Mission to the Court of London, consisting of four Burmese officials, namely, the Kin Woon Mengyee, the Paden Woon, the Pangyet Woon, and a writer or Secretary. The Mission was somewhat irregular. His Majesty departed from his usual custom of taking the advice of the Political Agent upon all matters connected with the relations between the two countries, and steadily declined to make known his inten-

tion to the Agent, until the Embassy was actually starting. In accordance with the instructions of the Government of India, the Embassy was officially and formally informed in Rangoon, that though they would be received in a manner becoming their position as representatives of an independent monarch, in friendly alliance with the British Government, they were not to expect that any State business would be conducted with them, and that the political relations between the Court of Ava, and the Government of India, must continue to be carried on through the prescribed channels. The mistakes which the King committed in respect to the mission are no doubt to be attributed rather to the evil counsel of interested agents, than to any wilful desire on the King's own part to treat the Government of India or its representatives with disrespect.

57. Towards the close of the year under review, letters to the address of the King of Ava were received from Her Majesty the Queen, the Prime Minister, and His Excellency the Viceroy of India. These letters were dispatched to Mandalay in charge of Colonel Horace Browne, Deputy Commissioner of Thayetmyo, who was specially deputed for the purpose. As Colonel Browne approached Mandalay on board the steamer, a fleet of fifty gilded war barges met him with a deputation of Burmese officials, and escorted him to Mandalay, where, as the bearer of royal-letters, he was received with every honor. After some preliminary discussion, it was arranged that the letters should be delivered on the 24th April 1872. The letters were laid on golden salvers, and carried to the Palace with a great procession of elephants, accompanied by a body of cavalry and music. The route on either side was lined with infantry. On entering the Palace enclosure, a royal salute was fired, and the European officers and Burman officials, dismounted from their elephants amidst a military display of all arms of the service, including war elephants and war chariots in fine trappings, and a profuse exhibition of silken banners. After a short visit of ceremony to the

Letters from the Queen, Premier, and Viceroy, to the King of Ava.



—(Criminal.)—Statement of offences reported and of Persons tried, convicted, and acquitted for each offence in the Province of British Burma (inclusive of the Town of Rangoon) for the year 1876.

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCE.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial.	REMARKS.
<b>CLASS I.</b>							
Offences against the State, the public, and justice.							
Inciting war against the Queen	...	...	6	29	...	...	Pending from last year.
Counterfeiting coin, stamps, weights and measures	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Counterfeiting coin	4	6	...	3	...	...	3 committed.
Mutilating or altering coin	3	3	1	1	...	...	1 ditto.
Using or possessing bad or altered coin	11	11	5	6	...	...	...
Using or possessing false weights or measures	19	48	22	26	...	...	...
<b>Against public justice.</b>							
Persecuting public servant or soldier	17	38	11	17	...	...	...
Inducement to commit offence	1	2	2	...	...	...	...
Refusing to give information of offence, or giving false information	68	85	28	57	...	...	...
Using disappearance of evidence	13	19	9	9	...	1	...
Witnessing, obstructing, or omitting to assist public servant	79	110	43	67	...	...	...
Disobedience of lawful order, causing injury	218	301	113	388	...	...	...
Intentional insult or interruption in judicial proceeding	15	19	1	18	...	...	...
Harboring an offender	13	19	13	5	...	2	...
Refusing to screen offender	28	46	19	28	1	3	...
Obstructing lawful apprehension and rescue	61	78	23	53	...	...	...
Escape from lawful custody or transportation	68	98	17	70	1	1	7 ditto.
Disobeying summons, or order to attend or produce, or refusing to answer or sign	125	195	60	134	1	...	...
Obstructing the corruption of the Police	7	9	5	4	...	...	...
<b>By public servants.</b>							
Stealing valuable thing by, or to influence public servants	86	118	40	76	2	...	...
Public servant fraudulently defeating punishment or forfeiture	4	5	1	4	...	...	...
Public servant intentionally omitting to apprehend or permitting to escape	4	4	4	...	...	...	...
Public servant negligently suffering escape	68	68	18	58	4	5	...
Each of Police Act by Police Officers	29	67	6	61	...	...	...
Carried over	970	1,550	498	1,060	9	19	11 committed.

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCE.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial.	REMARKS.
Brought forward	970	1,550	498	1,060	9	19	11 committed.
<b>CLASS I—(concluded).</b>							
<b>False evidence, false complaints or claims, and forgery.</b>							
Giving false evidence	40	49	17	28	1	4	7 ditto.
Fabricating false evidence	2	2	...	2	...	...	...
Fraudulent claim to, or concealment of property, or suffering of decree	17	26	13	13	...	...	...
False claim in court of justice	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
False charge of offence	46	60	20	1	...	...	...
Frivolous or vexatious complaint	15	11	1	13	...	...	...
Forgery or fraudulently using or possessing forged document	18	25	15	3	...	4	3 ditto.
Making or using false trade-marks	6	6	2	3	...	1	...
<b>Public nuisances.</b>							
Public nuisances under Penal Code	1,174	2,000	501	1,524	...	4	1 ditto.
Nuisances under Police or Municipal and Local Acts	2,958	5,978	846	5,129	...	3	...
<b>Relating to the public peace.</b>							
Rioting or unlawful assembly	138	1,078	350	688	...	...	...
Affray	166	751	180	631	...	...	...
Offences relating to religion	18	36	25	10	...	...	...
Total	4,880	11,545	2,368	9,116	11	28	23 committed.
<b>CLASS II</b>							
<b>Offences against the person.</b>							
Murder { By dacoits	6	10	...	...	...	3	8 committed.
By robbers	3	3	...	...	1	1	1 ditto.
Other murders { From motives connected with women	70	121	36	...	1	3	81 ditto.
From other motives	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Attempt to murder	18	22	1	4	...	1	18 ditto.
Culpable homicide	36	41	16	10	...	1	14 ditto.
Abetment of suicide	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
Attempt to commit suicide	25	25	12	11	1	1	...
Causing miscarriage	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Exposure of infant or concealment of birth	6	6	3	5	...	...	...
Grievous hurt	140	204	72	117	...	5	10 ditto.
Grievous hurt on grave and sudden provocation	13	16	9	14	...	...	...
Hurt	777	1,940	471	789	...	19	...
Hurt by dangerous weapons	271	439	144	274	...	15	6 ditto.
Administering stupefying drugs	2	5	2	3	...	...	...
Causing hurt to extort property or confession	5	11	5	6	...	...	...
Act dangerous to life or safety	121	188	57	129	...	...	...
Wrongful restraint	25	80	33	46	...	1	...
Wrongful confinement	28	38	19	16	...	...	...
Wrongful confinement to extort property or confession	3	5	4	...	1	...	...
Assault or use of criminal force	2,028	3,737	2,093	1,543	76	25	...
Carried over	4,124	8,098	2,915	2,886	39	43	136 committed.



## B.—JUDICIAL. Statement 2—(continued).

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCE.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Acquitted or charged.	Convicted.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial.	REMARKS.
Brought forward ...	4,124	6,008	2,905	2,868	36	43	136 committed
<b>CLASS II—(concluded).</b>							
<i>Offences against the person—(concluded).</i>							
Criminal intimidation or insult ...	1,383	1,000	988	685	20	8	
Causing annoyance in state of intoxication ...	81	80	15	44	...	...	
Buying or disposing of any person as a slave ...	2	2	...	2	...	...	
Kidnapping or abduction ...	62	64	21	21	...	2	10 ditto.
Abducting a woman to compel marriage or for defilement ...	2	2	2	...	...	...	
Selling, letting, or unlawfully obtaining a woman for purposes of prostitution ...	1	2	1	1	...	...	
Enticing a married woman with criminal intent ...	19	19	16	3	...	...	
Fraudulent and unlawful marriages ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	
Adultery ...	85	85	64	7	4	3	10 ditto.
Rape ...	64	60	27	...	...	2	6 ditto.
Attempt to commit rape ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	
Unnatural offences ...	7	7	...	4	...	...	2 ditto.
Defamation ...	54	78	41	28	1	2	
Total ...	5,748	8,186	4,167	2,878	114	103	163 committed.
<b>CLASS III.</b>							
<i>Offences against property with violence.</i>							
Dacoity ...	36	63	10	23	...	2	27 committed.
Preparation or assembly for dacoity ...	3	13	6	2	...	1	4 ditto.
Robbery with hurt or deadly weapon ...	20	21	14	17	...	...	
Robbery ...	62	104	45	62	...	2	4 ditto.
Extortion ...	64	126	43	70	3	1	ditto.
House-breaking or house-trespass, in order to commit theft ...	658	806	20	206	1	4	2 ditto.
House-breaking or house-trespass in order to commit an offence other than theft ...	40	43	9	22	...	2	
House-breaking or house-trespass with preparations for, or attempt at, hurt ...	142	113	42	60	1	1	
House-breaking or lurking house-trespass, without violence.	118	77	23	53	...	1	
<i>Without violence.</i>							
Theft of cattle ...	797	552	209	347	1	2	2 ditto.
Theft (ordinary) ...	8,521	6,585	1,800	4,696	40	21	19 ditto.
Unlawfully receiving stolen property ...	641	964	308	652	1	2	1 ditto.
Dishonest misappropriation of property ...	231	348	122	182	2	1	1 ditto.
Criminal breach of trust ...	198	204	89	111	...	2	2 ditto.
Cheating ...	201	253	123	107	3	2	1 ditto.
<i>Malicious offences.</i>							
Mischief, (ordinary) ...	270	709	401	205	1	1	
Mischief by poisoning or killing cattle ...	58	64	39	24	...	1	
Mischief by destroying land-marks ...	2	2	...	2	...	...	
Serious mischief by fire ...	60	40	25	17	1	...	2 ditto.
Criminal trespass or house-trespass ...	792	1,160	637	515	1	7	
Breaking closed receptacle ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	
Total ...	12,087	11,794	4,083	7,517	66	61	67 committed.

## B.—JUDICIAL. Statement 2—(concluded).

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCE.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Acquitted or charged.	Convicted.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial.	REMARKS.
<b>CLASS IV.</b>							
<i>Offences not included in the above classes.</i>							
Criminal breaches of contracts of service ...	24	55	42	13	...	...	
Vagrancy without ostensible means of livelihood ...	794	1,380	434	224	3	19	
Maintenance of wife and children ...	65	61	15	40	...	...	
Security to keep the peace ...	64	110	16	94	...	...	
Maintenance of inmates ...	4	4	...	4	...	...	
Removal of nuisance ...	14	14	...	14	...	...	
Non-compliance with order to give bond.	5	14	3	11	...	...	
Total ...	900	1,641	510	1,109	3	19	
<i>Breaches of Special Laws of the Province.</i>							
Excise on spirits and drugs ...	1,850	2,038	458	1,586	10	2	
Customs ...	9	9	...	9	...	...	
Stamps ...	12	20	2	18	...	...	
Post Office ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	
Municipalities ...	650	1,773	402	1,370	...	1	
Jails ...	25	41	5	36	...	...	
Forests ...	20	50	10	28	...	5	
Ferries ...	20	60	14	28	...	...	
Railways ...	73	248	26	222	...	...	
Fisheries Act, VII. of 1873 ...	26	103	26	75	...	...	
Gaming and lotteries ...	940	5,681	1,237	4,368	16	12	
Cattle-trespass Act, I. of 1871 ...	60	142	43	90	...	...	
Possession of arms ...	20	21	3	17	1	...	
Merchant Shipping Act ...	105	271	101	170	...	...	
Seamen's Act, I. of 1859 ...	23	53	7	46	...	...	
Local Rules ...	21	77	10	66	1	...	
Revenue Rules ...	1	14	7	7	...	...	
Police Act, V. of 1861 ...	22	580	25	555	...	...	
Cantonment Rules ...	226	524	62	462	...	...	
Contract Act, XIII. of 1859 ...	27	28	17	9	...	...	
Gharries, carts, and boats ...	363	925	172	753	...	...	
Contagious Diseases Act ...	190	325	70	252	5	...	
Registration ...	1	2	...	2	...	...	
Indian Ports Act, XII. of 1873 ...	7	40	21	19	...	...	
Miscellaneous ...	7	83	19	64	...	...	
Total ...	4,958	13,158	2,739	10,268	21	20	
<b>ABSTRACT.</b>							
Offences under Class I ...	4,860	11,545	2,308	9,116	11	28	23 committed.
Ditto Class II ...	5,748	8,186	4,107	3,698	114	102	165 ditto.
Ditto Class III ...	13,037	11,794	4,083	7,517	66	61	67 ditto.
Ditto Class IV ...	900	1,641	510	1,109	3	19	
Breaches of special laws of the province	4,958	13,158	2,739	10,268	21	20	
GRAND TOTAL ...	29,503	40,224	12,807	31,608	225	230	254 committed.



Hlot-dsu, or Council of State, the letters were carried to the Palace, through the great inner red gate, which is only open to members of the royal family. Most of the British residents in Mandalay were present, but were only admitted at the side door. The letters were then taken, still on golden salvers, into the hall of reception, where several of the King's sons, and other members of the royal family, were already seated. Presently His Majesty made his appearance and took his seat on a couch. The letters were read aloud by a Burmese official, and a conversation ensued between the King and the British officers; after which His Majesty retired, and refreshments were served up in the Burmese fashion, which brought the ceremony to a close. It was obviously to the King's interest to make the most of the success which had attended his endeavour to open direct communication with Her Majesty and the Prime Minister and to give the greatest éclat to the ceremony.

Panthay Mission  
from Talifoo.

58. About the same time a Mission arrived at Rangoon from the Court of Talifoo, bearing friendly messages from Sultan Suleiman, the reigning sovereign over the Panthay territories in Western China. The Mission comprised the following persons:—

(1.) Prince Hassan, a son of Sultan Suleiman, and head of the Mission.

(2.) Prince Yusuf, a nephew of the Sultan.

(3.) Ibrahim Khan, an interpreter, who however could speak no English or Hindostanee, but knew a little Arabic, and could converse through the medium of Malay and Chinamen.

The Mission was under the peremptory orders of the Panthay Government, to proceed to England and deliver presents from Sultan Suleiman to Her Majesty the Queen. Attempts were made to dissuade the Mission from undertaking the journey to England, but while the Prince was aware that the

result of his negotiation must be fruitless, his instructions to go to England in the face of all obstacles were so stringent, that he felt bound to go on, and he was accordingly forwarded to Calcutta and eventually to England. It will be remembered that the Vizier of Suleima Sultan, named Tah-sah-kon, was Governor of Momein at the time of Major Sladen's expedition, and had hospitably entertained the party, and promised ever assistance in clearing the routes between Bhamo and Momein. It was but natural that the Panthays having received a mission of English officers should find it difficult to understand that there could possibly be any political objections to their sending a return mission. If any complication has arisen in the matter the mission to the Panthays should have the blame and not their response to our overtures, quite unsought on their part.

59. During the past year, the relations between British Burma and Siam have been prominently brought under notice. It will be seen from the Administration Report for 1870-71, that the timber trade on the Salween had been greatly impeded by the disputes between the Chief of Zimmay, who is a feudatory of Siam, and the Chief of Eastern Karennee, who is nominally under the suzerainty of Ava. In April 1871, Captain Lowndes was deputed on a Mission to Zimmay with the view of promoting friendly relations with the Chief, and providing for the better protection of foresters. The Mission returned in the following May, and Captain Lowndes submitted an interesting journal of his proceedings, including a narrative of the incidents of his journey through those remote territories; but he was unable immediately to effect the primary object of his mission. The Chief was friendly, and appeared to be arriving at some sort of understanding with the Chief of Eastern Karennee; but otherwise he was extremely apathetic, and it was obvious he would make no effort to redress the grievances alleged against him, excepting under compulsion from the Court of Siam. Under such circumstances, application was made to the British Consul at Bangkok, and the Siamese Government has lately commenced the

Mission to Zim-  
may.

Negotiation  
with Siam.



adjudication of claims against its distant vassal, and has paid considerable claims preferred by British subjects. The Police have been greatly strengthened on the Salween frontier, and an Assistant Commissioner has been specially appointed to the locality; and it is to be hoped that these measures will tend to place the timber trade on a legitimate basis and secure the protection of the foresters. The establishment of the Salween district has been attended with the best possible results. The Chiefs of the neighbouring Karennee States seem anxious to co-operate with us in maintaining order on the frontier, and are themselves much alarmed at the aggressive position towards them taken up by some of the old dacoit chiefs, alleged to be acting under the sanction of the King of Burma though this is not shown really to be the case. In January 1872, the young King of Siam, whilst on his way to Calcutta, paid a visit to Rangoon, accompanied by several of his brothers and high officials. On this occasion, His Majesty was received as the guest of the Chief Commissioner, who accompanied him to Calcutta.

Arakan Hill  
Tracts.

60. The unsatisfactory state of affairs in the Arakan Hill Tracts has been long under the consideration of Government; but during the past year a new system of administration had been introduced, based on the policy which had been previously adopted in the Chittagong Hills, and other remote districts of Bengal. A line has been drawn, between territory which is still under our direct administration, and that which we do not at present desire to bring under our immediate control, and which is therefore left in the hands of the Chiefs. The Hill District under our control has been placed under the administration of the Superintendent of Hill Tracts, with an Assistant Superintendent of Police, and a native official. The Police within these limits, have been greatly strengthened, and formed into a separate force. A code of simple rules has also been framed for the special administration of justice in these Tracts, as it is undesirable that the Regulations and Acts of the Government of India, should be applied to such an

ignorant and uncivilised race, as the people of the Hills. The Superintendent has been instructed that it is time to cultivate and maintain friendly relations with the Chiefs beyond the line of demarcation; influencing them so far as he can, but not endeavouring to coerce them or interfere with them, or on the other hand doing anything which will have the effect of making us responsible for their protection from other and still more inaccessible tribes. The work of enlisting, equipping and training a suitable body of Police, has now been nearly completed. Stockaded posts have been established at Palukwa, Dalekmay and Lemroo, and communications have been established between them. Steps have also been taken for opening up a communication between the frontier of the Hill Tracts and that of Chittagong.

61. The results of the past year have shown that the new system of administration has been highly successful. The raids into the Arakan Hills, chiefly by men of the Shandoo tribe, constituted one of the great difficulties of past years; and it was found impossible to protect our villages, or to exercise any control over the marauding tribes, by whom they were perpetually laid waste. During 1871-72 however, there has been only one raid on a village within the boundary of the new district. The Police received early notice of the outrage, and overtook the marauders, and after inflicting severe loss, compelled them to abandon their plunder and captives. Two other raids were attempted, but in both cases the activity of the Police forced the war-party to retreat across the frontier, before they could perpetrate any mischief. Meantime the old system of debt and feud slavery is dying out, and good order, and security to property, are gradually being introduced into the Hill Tracts, and will naturally be followed by a development of the agricultural industry of the people, who it is hoped, will engage largely in the cultivation of Cotton and Tobacco.



*C.—Civil Divisions of British Territory.*

Divisions of the Province

62. The Province of British Burma is composed of the three divisions of Arakan, Pegu, and Tenasserim, which from the time of their coming under British rule up to January 1862, were governed separately by their respective Commissioners, under the control of the Supreme Government in the case of Pegu and Tenasserim, and under that of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal in the case of Arakan. In January 1862, however, the three divisions were amalgamated and formed into a Chief Commissionership under Major General Sir Arthur Phayre. The whole of Arakan was taken from the Burmese in the war of 1824-26, as also was that portion of the present Tenasserim division extending from the Salween to the Pakchan, but Pegu and the portion of Tenasserim west of the Salween did not become British territory until after the second Burmese war in 1852, although this portion of the country was taken by our troops in the first war, but was handed back to the Government of Ava under the provisions of the Treaty of Yandaboo. The Province is administered by a Chief Commissioner, who has subordinate to him, 3 Commissioners in charge of divisions, 13 Deputy Commissioners in charge of districts, and numerous other officers, Executive and Judicial. A Judicial Commissioner was appointed in January 1872.

Area and population of the Province.

63. The estimated area of the Province is 93,664 square miles, with a population of 2,562,323 souls, or 27.4 persons to a square mile; this is a very sparse population, but it must be remembered that a large portion of the country consists of mountainous tracts and impenetrable jungle which has not even one person to a square mile. To control this extensive Province with its 1,000 miles of frontier, on some parts of which there are very turbulent races of people, only 6,058 police were employed during the year. This is equal to one policeman to every 123 persons, and to upwards of 15 square miles of country.

64. The Arakan division with its head-quarters <sup>Arakan</sup> at Akyab, consists of four districts, viz: Akyab, Northern Arakan Hill Tracts, Ramree and Sandoway, and the first named district has for Revenue and Judicial purposes the four sub-divisions of Akyab, Rathaidoung, Myohoung and Naf. The area of this division is estimated to be 18,530 square miles, but its north-eastern boundaries are but indefinitely defined and surveyed. The population of the division during the year 1871-72, was 461,136 souls, or 24.9 persons to a square mile; the Land tax yielded £74,490, and the gross revenue was £199,756.

65. The Pegu division with its head-quarters <sup>at Rangoon</sup> at Rangoon, is composed of the five districts of Rangoon, with the sub-divisions of Yandoon and Twantay; Bassein, with the sub-division of Ngathaingyoung; Myanoung, with its sudder station at Henzada, and the sub-divisions of Myanoung and Tharrawaddy; Prome, with the sub-division of Pongday and Engma; and Thayet; and has an area of 28,404 square miles and a population of 1,524,422 souls, or 53.6 persons to the square mile. The Revenue from Land tax was £205,446, while the gross revenue amounted to £763,825.

66. The Tenasserim division has its head-quarters <sup>Tenasserim</sup> at Moulmein, and comprises the districts of Amherst, with the sub-division of Thatone; Shwé-gyen, with the sub-division of Sittoung; Toungoo; Tavoy and Mergui; and the newly formed district named the Salween Tracts which was previously included in the Shwé-gyen district under the name of the Yoonza-leen sub-division. This division has an area of 46,730 square miles, with a population of 576,765 persons, or 12.3 persons to a square mile. The Land tax yielded £64,585, while the gross Revenue receipts amounted to £211,241.

67. The following are the principal towns in the Province having a population of upwards of 10,000 <sup>Towns with 10,000 souls.</sup> souls:—



Rangoon.	...	...	100,000
Moulmein.	...	...	53,653
Prome.	...	...	24,682
Bassein.	...	...	19,577
Akyab.	...	...	15,281
Henzada.	...	...	15,285
Tavoy.	...	...	14,467
Shwe-doung.	...	...	12,411

*D.—Population.*

Sources from whence statistics of population are obtained.

68. The population statistics of British Burma, are gathered from annual returns, prepared by Thoogyees or revenue collectors, for the purpose of assessing the capitation tax, within their respective circles; a nominal roll of every man, woman, and child, residing within each revenue Circle is one of the returns which has to be submitted to District officers, and as these returns are usually tolerably correct, they afford a fair means of ascertaining the number of the population. A regular census of the Province has been taken during the year 1872, but the results are not yet known.

Increase of Population.

69. The total population of British Burma during the year 1871-72, was 2,562,323 souls, against 2,491,736 souls in the year 1870-71, being an increase of 70,587 souls, or 2·8 per cent. This increase is partly due to natural causes and partly to immigration.

Statement showing the increase in population during the past 10 years.

70. The following statement shows the steady increase that has taken place in the population of the Province during the past 10 years:—

Years.	Population.	Increase in numbers.	Per cent.
1861-62	...	1,897,897	...
1871-72	...	2,562,323	...
		123,737	6·4

Years.	Population.	Increase in numbers.	Per cent.
1863-64	...	2,092,041	...
1864-65	...	2,196,180	...
1865-66	...	2,273,049	...
1866-67	...	2,330,453	...
1867-68	...	2,392,312	...
1868-69	...	2,395,985	...
1869-70	...	2,463,484	...
1870-71	...	2,491,736	...
1871-72	...	2,562,323	...

71. Of the total population of the Province during the past year, 848,801 were adult males, and 795,875 adult females. Of children above 12 years of age, there were 472,129 boys, and 445,518 girls.

72. The greater part of the population are Buddhists. From the detailed statistics given in the Appendix, it appears that there were 267,752 aborigines. These are the Karens, Khyens, and other wild tribes who inhabit the Forests and Hills. There were 1,337 Europeans, and 5,192 East Indians in the Province during the year. Hindoos and Mahomedans number 36,427 and 82,002, respectively. The majority of the Mahomedans are the descendants of Mahomedan fathers and Burmese mothers.

73. The statistics of emigrants and immigrants shew that there were 75,690 emigrants, and 97,679 immigrants during the past year. As noted in last year's report, the greatest number of emigrants and immigrants were in the districts of Rangoon, Amherst and Myanong. The immigrants are principally coolies from India, who come to Rangoon and Moulmein, where they are certain of employment at very high wages, in the several rice and saw mills which have been set up at those ports. Large numbers of men from Upper Burma also flock to Myanong where they find employment on embankments and other Public Works which are carried on in that district. This class of immigrants would no doubt gladly settle in British Burma, but are deterred from doing so, on account of the restrictions placed by the Burmese Government upon families crossing the frontier into British territory. As regards the Indian im-

Emigrants and Immigrants.



migrants, after they have saved a little money they return to their homes.

Houses.

74. During the past year there were 1,133 masonry houses in the Province, and 527,274 houses of all other kinds, giving an average on the total population of 4·8 souls, to each house. It will be seen that the proportion of masonry to other descriptions of houses is very small. This may be attributed to the expensiveness of masonry houses, but is chiefly due to the fact that such buildings are not suited to a damp climate like that of Burma where it is essential that a house should be raised off the ground, so as to allow of a free current of air beneath it. Wood being plentiful, a wooden house is quickly and cheaply built.

Population of the three Divisions.

75. The population of the three Divisions of the Province during the past year, as compared with that in 1870-71 was as follows :—

	1870-71.	1871-72.
Arakan ... ..	452,925	461,136
Pegu ... ..	1,367,894	1,524,422
Tenasserim ... ..	570,917	576,765

76. The increase in Arakan was 8,211 souls, or 1·77 per cent; in Pegu 56,528, or 3·8 per cent, and in Tenasserim 5,848, or 1·02 per cent, it will be seen therefore that the greatest increase took place in the Pegu division. This increase has occurred principally in the Rangoon district, where the population has increased during the year from 350,312 to 373,078 or by 22,766 persons, the remaining portion of the increase in the Pegu division is pretty equally distributed among the four other districts, viz., Bassein, Thayet, Prome and Myanoung.

Average of population to square mile.

77. The average of population to the square mile was for the Province 27·35 souls, and in Arakan 24·88, in Pegu 53·66, and in Tenasserim 12·34. Pegu is therefore by far the most thickly populated, of the three Divisions.

*E.—Fiscal.*

78. No surveys were undertaken in the Province during the year of report except the measurement of a few waste land grants in the Rangoon district by the Senior Officer, Revenue Settlement Department, who found that in most instances the original area granted had been added to by the grantees, and that in one or two cases considerable tracts of village land had been encroached upon.

79. The question of the grants of waste land generally, was under consideration during the year, and the result of the enquiries made, shewed a very unsatisfactory state of things. In the Rangoon district alone it was found that 80,923 acres have been granted away in 66 grants, of which only 9,502 acres have been partially cultivated. These lands have, in the majority of cases, been taken up for speculative purposes, and for the extortion of petty dues from the surrounding villagers, and not for the purpose of cultivation, or the development of improved agricultural industry through the employment of European capital. Most of the grants, and especially the large ones, appear to have been made without due consideration or enquiry, and with no regard to the rights and interests of the villagers in the neighbourhood, and there can be no doubt that the people have been much harassed and oppressed, and that here and there they have been actually driven from their holdings, through having been forbidden by the grantees to cut firewood and thatch grass, to graze their cattle, to burn charcoal, to gather fruits and flowers, and even to catch birds or fish: to all of which by right of residence they would have been entitled had the land remained in possession of the Government.

80. The grants seem to have been made to anybody who had sufficient interest to get his application supported, without reference to the legality of the grant, the rights of the people, or the good of the State; and in consequence, abuses of every kind have

Grants made without enquiry.



migrants, after they have saved a little money they return to their homes.

Houses.

74. During the past year there were 1,133 masonry houses in the Province, and 527,274 houses of all other kinds, giving an average on the total population of 4·8 souls, to each house. It will be seen that the proportion of masonry to other descriptions of houses is very small. This may be attributed to the expensiveness of masonry houses, but is chiefly due to the fact that such buildings are not suited to a damp climate like that of Burma where it is essential that a house should be raised off the ground, so as to allow of a free current of air beneath it. Wood being plentiful, a wooden house is quickly and cheaply built.

Population of the three Divisions.

75. The population of the three Divisions of the Province during the past year, as compared with that in 1870-71 was as follows :—

	1870-71.	1871-72.
Arakan ... ..	452,925	461,136
Pegu ... ..	1,467,894	1,524,422
Tenasserim ... ..	570,917	576,765

76. The increase in Arakan was 8,211 souls, or 1·77 per cent : in Pegu 56,528, or 3·8 per cent, and in Tenasserim 5,848, or 1·02 per cent, it will be seen therefore that the greatest increase took place in the Pegu division. This increase has occurred principally in the Rangoon district, where the population has increased during the year from 350,312 to 373,078 or by 22,766 persons, the remaining portion of the increase in the Pegu division is pretty equally distributed among the four other districts, *viz.*, Bassein, Thayet, Prome and Myanounge.

Average of population to square mile.

77. The average of population to the square mile was for the Province 27·35 souls, and in Arakan 24·83, in Pegu 53·66, and in Tenasserim 12·34. Pegu is therefore by far the most thickly populated, of the three Divisions.

*E.—Fiscal.*

78. No surveys were undertaken in the Province during the year of report except the measurement of a few waste land grants in the Rangoon district by the Senior Officer, Revenue Settlement Department, who found that in most instances the original area granted had been added to by the grantees, and that in one or two cases considerable tracts of village land had been encroached upon.

79. The question of the grants of waste land generally, was under consideration during the year, and the result of the enquiries made, shewed a very unsatisfactory state of things. In the Rangoon district alone it was found that 80,923 acres have been granted away in 66 grants, of which only 9,502 acres have been partially cultivated. These lands have, in the majority of cases, been taken up for speculative purposes, and for the extortion of petty dues from the surrounding villagers, and not for the purpose of cultivation, or the development of improved agricultural industry through the employment of European capital. Most of the grants, and especially the large ones, appear to have been made without due consideration or enquiry, and with no regard to the rights and interests of the villagers in the neighbourhood, and there can be no doubt that the people have been much harassed and oppressed, and that here and there they have been actually driven from their holdings, through having been forbidden by the grantees to cut firewood and thatch grass, to graze their cattle, to burn charcoal, to gather fruits and flowers, and even to catch birds or fish : to all of which by right of residence they would have been entitled had the land remained in possession of the Government.

80. The grants seem to have been made to anybody who had sufficient interest to get his application supported, without reference to the legality of the grant, the rights of the people, or the good of the State ; and in consequence, abuses of every kind have



sprung up; lands, which are not "waste lands," were leased for terms of 20 and 30 years, free of assessment, and whilst the grantees do not expend one rupee in improving, or tilling these lands, they derive a revenue therefrom by charging for firewood and everything else that the people around may require from the lands so leased.

81. In reporting on these grants to the Government of India, it was recommended that the rules of 1863 for the sale of waste lands, and the rules of 1865 for leasing such lands, should be cancelled, as there is no object in selling land of this kind in British Burma, or in making grants. These recommendations have met with approval, and the rules have been entirely cancelled. A survey of the whole of the existing grants has, at the same time, been authorized.

82. The following statement shews the area of the cultivated land under settlement in the several districts of the Province, during the year of report and that immediately preceding:—

District.	Area under Settlement in		Increase.	Decrease.
	1870-71.	1871-72.		
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Akrab .. .. .	79,524	75,800	"	3,725
Northern Arakan .. .. .	54,688	54,045	"	643
Bamone .. .. .	10,392	10,384	"	8
Sandoway .. .. .	211,865	190,072	"	21,793
Bassein .. .. .	72,550	65,224	"	7,326
Myanung .. .. .	195,005	195,475	470	"
Prome .. .. .	129,613	154,259	24,646	"
Thayet .. .. .	"	"	"	"
Tongoo .. .. .	28,095	28,695	600	"
Shwe-gyen .. .. .	10,911	10,640	"	271
Amherst .. .. .	50,491	50,421	"	70
Tavoy .. .. .	11,575	11,575	"	"
Mergui .. .. .	20,160	20,160	"	"
Total .. .. .	883,571	892,945	Net decrease. 1,296	

83. No settlement operations were carried out in the Arakan division during the year, and the leases of about 4,000 acres expired. In the Rangoon and Bassein districts 15,793 and 7,332 acres respectively,

fell out of settlement, but 25,626 acres additional were brought under lease in the Prome district, by the Deputy Commissioner, not however for any specified period, but as liable to measurement whenever it may be considered necessary. Settlement operations were also in abeyance in the Tenasserim division, and there was a small decrease in the area under lease, owing to the relinquishment of certain rice land in the Amherst and Shwe-gyen districts.

84. The whole question of the settlement of land in this Province has been carefully considered by a Committee of experienced Officers, who recommended, that the Settlement establishment sanctioned in 1869 should be modified and that, in future, settlements should be carried out under the supervision and control of the revenue authorities; that the primary duty of the establishment entertained for settlement purposes should be to demarcate, and map the various holdings; that where possible a uniform rate of assessment should be imposed on the area of each kweng or plain, such rates to be fixed by the Deputy Commissioner subject to the approval of the Commissioner; that the system of individual leases should be followed in all cases, the joint system having been productive of oppression; that leases for portions of holdings only should not be granted; that lessees should be allowed to abandon their holdings on giving one year's notice, or on payment of a year's tax; that an allowance for *bond fide* fallow land not exceeding one-quarter of the total area of the leased holdings should be granted; that the leases should be for periods of 5 or 10 years, one term of duration only being allowed in each kweng; that due provision should be made for providing that the village enclosure is not encroached upon, and that a sufficiency of grazing ground is allotted to each village; and that the rights of the cultivators to the waste lands adjoining leased tracts, should not be absolute, but only preferential.

85. These proposals met with the full approval of the Chief Commissioner, and on submission to the

The question of the settlement of land carefully considered by a Committee of experienced Officers.

Proposals of Committee approved by the



the crops over a large area. It is said that no such rise has been known in Prome for the last 25 years, and in Bassein for the last half century. All along the inundated portion of the country the people again and again replanted their lands, but unsuccessfully, and the result was that remissions to the amount of £13,199 have had to be granted. If it had not been for the protection afforded by the new Irrawaddy embankments, notwithstanding that they were breached in places, the loss of crops would have been very great.

Capitation tax.

93. The *Capitation tax*—which is a poll tax on the male population of the Province, of ages between 18 and 60, with the exception of immigrants for the first five years of their residence, religious teachers, schoolmasters, government servants, and those unable to obtain their own livelihood—was levied on 556,035 persons in the year of report, and on 543,567 persons in 1870-71, an increase in favor of the former year of 12,468 persons, or 2·29 per cent; and yielded a revenue of £226,954 and £221,105 respectively, an increase of £5,849, or 2·64 per cent. The increase in Arakan was 1,516 persons and £744, in Pegu 7,350 persons, and £3,766, and in Tenasserim 3,602 persons and £1,339; this tax is levied generally at the rate of ten shillings per head for married men and five shillings for bachelors.

Land assessment  
in lieu of Capita-  
tion tax.

94. In the large towns, a special *Land tax* is levied in lieu of capitation tax, the rate on land covered by buildings being 13s. 6½d. per 100 square feet, and on land not so covered, 6s. per acre. The amount thus levied was in Arakan, from Akyab and Kyouk-Phyoo, £1,304 on 4,646 houses; in Pegu, from the principal towns in each district, £12,092 on 18,306 houses; and in Tenasserim, from the station of Toungoo alone, £907 on 1,980 houses. The increase in Arakan was £34, in Pegu £636 and in Tenasserim £40, the aggregate being equal to 5·22 per cent in excess of the revenue collected in 1870-71 under this head.

95. An increase to the extent of £2,790, or 4·22 <sup>Fisheries</sup> per cent, took place in the revenue realized from *Fisheries* throughout the Province, the total collections having amounted to £68,875 in the year of report, and £66,085 in the previous year. In Arakan there was a decrease of £146, instead of an increase as was anticipated, almost all of which was in the Akyab district and is said to be “due to fewer fishermen having taken licenses during the year.” The principal portion of the increase was realized, as usual, in the Pegu division, the amount in excess of the previous year having been £2,875. As regards the renting of the fisheries in the Rangoon district, the Commissioner observes that, although financially successful, it was still not very satisfactory; that there were numerous appeals; and that although the officer who was deputed by the Deputy Commissioner on the duty, did his part of this work pretty correctly, yet under-currents were “at work which tended to make “the people think that improper influences had been “brought to bear on the leasings.” The increase realized in Tenasserim was but £61 and was derived from the Mergui and Shwe-gyen districts.

96. With the close of the year under review, the old system of letting the fisheries came to an end, and new rules were promulgated under which all fisheries, with but few exceptions, are to be let for a term of 5 years by public auction to the highest bidders above an upset price, provided the bidders hold certificates signed by the Deputy Commissioner, to the effect that they are qualified to bid at such auctions; the qualifications being that they are fishermen, and residents near the particular fishery for which they are allowed to bid. By this arrangement the District officer is relieved from the duty of selecting individuals as lessees of the fisheries, whilst at the same time the utmost value of the fishery is in most cases obtained; and it is to be hoped that a stop will be put to the corruption, intrigue and consequent litigation which have hitherto prevailed. These new leases will take effect in the current year.

New system of  
leasing fisheries  
introduced.



Increase in the  
quantity of  
opium purchased  
from Government

101. A very large increase in the quantity of Opium purchased from the Government, took place in the year under report, as compared with the quantity vend<sup>d</sup> in the year immediately preceding, and in previous years. The sales in 1871-72 aggregated 20,669 seers, whilst in 1870-71 they amounted to 17,220 seers, the increase being 3,479 seers, or 20 per cent. Of this enhanced vend 2,730 seers were purchased by the lessees of three out of the four farms in the Rangoon district. With this large increase in sales however, there was but a small increase of £2,061 in the net receipts derived from the profit on the opium and the rent realized for the farms. The increase under the former head was of course in the same ratio as the increase in the quantity sold, and amounted to £5,990, but a considerable falling off was experienced in the rents obtained for the various farms, the decrease having aggregated £3,929, due to the diminished rent realized for the farm in the town of Rangoon, there having been an almost entire absence of competition among the Chinamen, who have heretofore been very keen bidders for the monopoly of disposing of the drug in that town. The increased sales can, in the opinion of the Chief Commissioner, be only attributed to the decrease in smuggling. It is notorious that of late years much opium has been smuggled into Rangoon, and it was not at all difficult to tranship such opium into boats and forward it to the out stations through the affluents of the Rangoon river; but during the past year a much stricter supervision has been exercised over vessels from Calcutta and the Madras Coast, and a considerable quantity of contraband drug has been seized. It may therefore be presumed that the Chinamen who have leased the farms for some years past, did not find them so profitable as they before did, as they were no longer able, with impunity, to import contraband opium, and hence retired from the trade in the year of report.

102. The Chief Commissioner sees every reason to hope that the increase in the consumption of duty-paying opium which is apparent, is not the result of

a largely extended use of the drug, but of a check to the importation of illicit opium from India. It has been the desire of the Chief Commissioner to do everything to discourage the use of opium by the people, but the natural result of the farming or monopoly system has been to encourage smuggling, as it was from the smuggled opium no doubt that the farmer's chief profit was made.

103. The revenue realized from Ganja during the year of report happily showed a considerable falling off as compared with the receipts in the previous year, the amounts being £1,737, and £2,065 respectively, a decrease of £328, or 16 per cent. These figures would appear to imply that the consumption of this pernicious plant is on the decline, and it is to be hoped that such is the case.

Satisfactory decrease in Revenue realized from Ganja.

104. Under the new system, licenses have been sanctioned for the same places as under the old, with the exception of Henzada viz :--Akyab, Nâf, Rangoon, Bassein, Thayetmyo, Toungoo, Moulmein; but it has been ordered that no further addition shall be made to the number of places for the sale of the drug. The Chief Commissioner has directed that for next year the sale of ganja should be absolutely prohibited and that no licenses should be granted. The persons who use it are chiefly natives of India, and they must take the want of it as one of the inconveniences of residence in a foreign country. They will probably take to a less noxious stimulant, and by continuing the sale of ganja we are no doubt incurring the risk of introducing its use among the Burmese population who are at present free from the vice.

License for the retail vend of Ganja.

105. The amount of revenue derived as rents for the monopoly of disposing of Spirits manufactured in the Province after the English method, and as rents for the distilleries in which that spirit was produced, was £20,366 in 1871-72, and £25,012 in the previous year, whilst the average annual collection for five years preceding the year under report was

Spirit increases.



£29,382. This large decrease is no doubt due to the system, under which the spirit-farmers were compelled to obtain from the head-quarters of each division a strong, expensive liquor, which was not liked by the people and which was therefore to a great extent unsaleable, whilst the demand was supplied by illicit distillation.

Licenses for the sale of Tari.

106. The amount realized as fees for licenses to sell Tari in the year under report was £12,429, against £11,523 in the previous year, and £11,847 as the average annual collection for five years preceding. This increase took place in the Tenasserim division exclusively, Arakan having shewn a decided decrease—still said to be owing to the destruction of palm trees by the Cyclone in November 1868—and Pegu having remained stationary.

Change in the system of Excise introduced on 1st April 1872.

107. The year 1871-72 was the last in which the Excise department was worked under the farming system, which consisted in disposing of the monopoly to sell the drugs or spirits in large tracts of country to one person, or company, under certain restrictions. On the 1st of April 1872, Act X of 1871, the Excise Act, was brought into force in this Province, and under its provisions rules have been drawn up by the Local Administration authorizing the disposal of the privilege to sell spirits and drugs on the "fixed duty" system, whereby a certain amount of duty is levied on the actual quantity of the spirit or drug which passes into consumption, and a license fee for the right to open a shop for the retail vend of the duty-paid article; and also on the "monthly tax" system, under which the holder of an out-still license agrees to pay a certain amount of tax for each month covered by his license, without reference to the actual quantity of the spirituous or fermented liquor or drug which he may sell. The former system has been introduced wherever possible, but in some instances it has been found necessary to license out-stills in the interior of districts under the monthly tax system. An exception has been made in respect to the disposal of licenses for the sale of

fermented tari or toddy, which may, with the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner, be sold by auction for any defined tract of country. So far as can be judged at present the new system has been successful financially, but of course nothing can as yet be said as to its success from other points of view, though it seems to have had the effect of diminishing illicit distilleries.

108. In each division of the Province a decrease in the revenue from Stamps occurred—in Arakan £408, in Pegu £2,039 and in Tenasserim £760, together £3,207, or 4.95 per cent—the amount realized in 1870-71 having been £67,969 and in the year under review £64,762. The increase in Postage and Telegraph stamps in the first named division, was £277, and the decrease in Law stamps £685, attributable to the smaller number of Civil suits which were instituted and the lower average value of such suits. In Pegu the increase in Postage and Telegraph stamps was £2,785, and the falling off in Law stamps £4,823, which appears to be due to reduced litigation and to a decrease in the value of suits. An increase also took place in the sales of Postage and Telegraph stamps in the Tenasserim division, to the extent of £416, and a decrease in the amount realized for Law stamps of £1,177, likewise due to less litigation and to a falling off in the value of suits.

109. In consequence of the reduction in the rate of Income tax, from 3½ to 1 per cent, and to the minimum rate of income liable to assessment having been raised from £50 to £75, a very large falling off in the revenue realized from this tax took place in the year of report. The amount of tax collected in Arakan was £1,189 in 1871-72 and £3,369 in 1870-71; in Pegu, £4,125 and £13,440 respectively; and in Tenasserim £1,365 and £4,420 during the two years. Of the sum realized in Pegu in 1871-72, £3,126 were collected in the Rangoon district, which shows a considerable improvement over the previous year, when £7,180 only were assessed, with the tax at three times the rate now prevailing.



£29,382. This large decrease is no doubt due to the system, under which the spirit-farmers were compelled to obtain from the head-quarters of each division a strong, expensive liquor, which was not liked by the people and which was therefore to a great extent unsaleable, whilst the demand was supplied by illicit distillation.

Licenses for the sale of Tari.

106. The amount realized as fees for licenses to sell Tari in the year under report was £12,429, against £11,523 in the previous year, and £11,847 as the average annual collections for five years preceding. This increase took place in the Tenasserim division exclusively, Arakan having shewn a decided decrease—still said to be owing to the destruction of palm trees by the Cyclone in November 1868—and Pegu having remained stationary.

Change in the system of Excise introduced on 1st April 1872.

107. The year 1871-72 was the last in which the Excise department was worked under the farming system, which consisted in disposing of the monopoly to sell the drugs or spirits in large tracts of country to one person, or company, under certain restrictions. On the 1st of April 1872, Act X of 1871, the Excise Act, was brought into force in this Province, and under its provisions rules have been drawn up by the Local Administration authorizing the disposal of the privilege to sell spirits and drugs on the "fixed duty" system, whereby a certain amount of duty is levied on the actual quantity of the spirit or drug which passes into consumption, and a license fee for the right to open a shop for the retail vend of the duty-paid article; and also on the "monthly tax" system, under which the holder of an out-still license agrees to pay a certain amount of tax for each month covered by his license, without reference to the actual quantity of the spirituous or fermented liquor or drug which he may sell. The former system has been introduced wherever possible, but in some instances it has been found necessary to license out-stills in the interior of districts under the monthly tax system. An exception has been made in respect to the disposal of licenses for the sale of

fermented tari or toddy, which may, with the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner, be sold by auction for any defined tract of country. So far as can be judged at present the new system has been successful financially, but of course nothing can as yet be said as to its success from other points of view, though it seems to have had the effect of diminishing illicit distilleries.

108. In each division of the Province a decrease <sup>Stamps.</sup> in the revenue from *Stamps* occurred—in Arakan £408, in Pegu £2,039 and in Tenasserim £760, together £3,207, or 4·95 per cent—the amount realized in 1870-71 having been £67,969 and in the year under review £64,762. The increase in Postage and Telegraph stamps in the first named division, was £277, and the decrease in Law stamps £685, attributable to the smaller number of Civil suits which were instituted and the lower average value of such suits. In Pegu the increase in Postage and Telegraph stamps was £2,785, and the falling off in Law stamps £4,823, which appears to be due to reduced litigation and to a decrease in the value of suits. An increase also took place in the sales of Postage and Telegraph stamps in the Tenasserim division, to the extent of 416, and a decrease in the amount realized for Law stamps of £1,177, likewise due to less litigation and to a falling off in the value of suits.

109. In consequence of the reduction in the rate <sup>Income Tax.</sup> of *Income tax*, from 3½ to 1 per cent, and to the minimum rate of income liable to assessment having been raised from £50 to £75, a very large falling off in the revenue realized from this tax took place in the year of report. The amount of tax collected in Arakan was £1,189 in 1871-72 and £3,369 in 1870-71; in Pegu, £4,125 and £13,440 respectively; and in Tenasserim £1,365 and £4,420 during the two years. Of the sum realized in Pegu in 1871-72, £3,126 were collected in the Rangoon district, which shows a considerable improvement over the previous year, when £7,180 only were assessed, with the tax at three times the rate now prevailing.



Forests

110. The revenue derived from the *Forest* department was £77,240 in 1871-72, and £81,812 in 1870-71, a decrease of £4,572. The receipts in the Prome and Sittang divisions and at the Kadoe Revenue station, shewed an increase, and those in Tharrawaddy and Iangoon, and Salween, a decrease; but in each division there was a considerable surplus revenue, the chief income being derived from Sittang and Kadoe. Details of the revenue derived in this Department, will be found in the Forest section of this report.

Marine.

111. The receipts in the *Marine* department, which consist principally of Coast light dues, showed a slight decrease of £18, respecting which no explanation has been furnished. A smaller revenue was also realized from the *Jail* department, the amount for the year of report and that preceding, being £11,513 and £9,893 respectively, a decrease of £1,620, due to less work having been performed for the Public Works Department, and for Municipalities. An increase of £180—£674 against £494—was realized as *School fees*, owing to the improved state of some of the Government schools. *Fines &c.*, increased by £616. The receipts on account of *Forest produce* increased “owing to the keen competition for the birds’ nests farms, between the two heads of Chinese residents at Tavoy.” *Unclaimed property sold*, also yielded a large comparative increase, the larger portion of which was realized from a house, late the property of a deceased Mogul merchant, who formerly carried on business in Akyab. Trifling increases were realized from *Fees on Civil and Criminal processes*, from *Premiums on Bills*, and from *Savings from pay of establishments*, regarding which no comments are necessary. Under all other items a large increase occurred in the Tenasserim division, which is explained as follows—“The great increase is in the Shwe-gyen district, where the fishery tax, as a temporary measure, appears to have been placed in deposit, pending adjustment and the crediting it to its proper head of account.”

Jails

School fees.

Forest produce.

Unclaimed property sold.

Fees on Civil and Criminal processes, Premiums on Bills and Savings from pay of establishments.

Other items.

112. Owing to the severe inundations in the valley of the Irrawaddy before referred to, the amount of remissions applied for in the year of report was far in excess of that asked for during many years past, viz:—£17,288. Of this amount £13,199 were remitted in the Pegu division, owing to the inundations in Prome, Myanong, Bassein and Rangoon from the Irrawaddy, and £268 on account of crops otherwise destroyed; £1,809 were remitted in the Tenasserim division owing to much land having been submerged in the Amherst district, and to excessive rain in other parts of that division, whilst £96 were allowed on crops damaged by other means, and £55 were remitted in Arakan on account of land. The balance was remitted on various grounds, £416 in the Arakan division chiefly on account of Capitation tax and Land assessment in lieu; £708 in the Pegu division, mostly on this account also, and on Fisheries; and £736 in the Tenasserim division, almost entirely on Capitation and Income taxes. In the year 1870-71 the total amount of remissions was £8,046, viz: £496 in Arakan; £4,772 in Pegu; and £2,778 in Tenasserim. Of these sums only £3,870 were remitted on account of land.

113. The collections on account of the net revenue of 1871-72 were at the close of the year, £1,176,625, or 94.24 per cent, and on the 30th of June 1872, £1,246,258, or 99.82 per cent. The realizations on account of the net revenue of 1870-71 up to the close of the first quarter of 1871-72, were equal to 99.58 per cent; and of that of 1869-70 up to the 30th June 1870, 99.43 per cent.

114. The balance outstanding on the 1st of July 1872 was £2,253; viz. £128 in Arakan, £2,081 in Pegu, and £44 in Tenasserim, almost all of which has since been collected. The outstandings of 1870-71 at the same date in 1871, amounted to £5,119, of which £110 were uncollected in Arakan, £2,723 in Pegu, and £2,286 in Tenasserim. The greatest improvement in collections has therefore taken place in Tenasserim.

Collection of Revenue made during the year.

Balance of Revenue outstanding at the close of the year.



Thogyee.

115. The revenue derived from direct taxation is collected by a class of men known as "Thogyees," or head persons, who are placed in charge of circles, and are not only collectors of revenue, but are to a certain extent held responsible for the state of that part of the country over which they are placed. They are men of influence and position, generally chosen from among the inhabitants of the respective circles.

## II.—STATISTICS OF PROTECTION.

### A.—Legislative.

No Legislative powers.

Bills submitted during the year 1871.

116. The Administration of this Province has no legislative powers. The following Bills were submitted to the Legislative Council of the Governor General in the year 1871, but were afterwards returned for modification and revision, they have since been amended and re-submitted, viz :—

- (i.)—To provide for the more efficient letting and control of the fisheries in British Burma.
- (ii.)—To provide for the appointment of Municipal Commissioners in towns in the Province of British Burma, and to make better provision for the Police Conservancy and improvements in the said towns, and for the levying of rates and taxes therein.
- (iii.)—To provide for the more efficient control of the Ferries in this Province.

Acts applicable to this Province passed during 1871.

117. The following Acts which were passed during the year 1871, are in force in British Burma:—

- I.—The Cattle Trespass Act.
- II.—The Indian Paper Currency Act.
- V.—The Prisoners' Act.
- VIII.—The Indian Registration Act.
- IX.—The Indian Limitation Act.

### X.—The Excise Act.

### XII.—The Indian Income Tax Act.

### XIII.—The Indian Tariff Act.

### XIV.—For the further amendment of the consolidated Customs Act, (VI of 1863.)

### XVI.—The Burma Steamer Survey Act.

### XXIII.—The Pensions Act.

### XXVI.—The Land Improvement Act.

### XXVII.—The Criminal Tribes' Act (Sections 1 and 27.)

### XXVIII.—To amend the European Vagrancy Act of 1869.

### B.—Judicial Tribunals.

118. From the statistical forms in the appendix it will be seen that there were 139 tribunals during the past year for the disposal of Criminal, Civil and Revenue cases; thus giving an average of one tribunal to every 18,434 persons. This number is exclusive of the Courts of certain officers of the Public Works and Forest Departments who have been invested with Magisterial powers for the trial of special offences and who exercise jurisdiction to a very limited extent.

Number of tribunals.

119. The following is the detail of the several tribunals existing during the year 1871 :—

Detail of tribunals.

(1.)—The Chief Court, presided over by the Chief Commissioner, was the Sudder Court of the Province.

(2.)—Three Divisional Courts, presided over by the Commissioners of Divisions, being Courts of Session and Appeal.



(3.)—Two Recorders Courts having original Civil jurisdiction; and in Criminal matters, being Courts of Session and Appeal.

(4.)—Fourteen Courts of District Magistrates having jurisdiction in Civil, Criminal and Revenue matters. The presiding officers of these Courts have been invested by the Chief Commissioner with special powers under Section 445 A, Act VIII of 1869, which empowers them to try all Sessions cases save those punishable with death, and to pass sentences of imprisonment for a period not exceeding seven years.

(5.)—Three Courts of Town Magistrates having Criminal jurisdiction only.

(6.)—Three Courts of Small Causes.

(7.)—One hundred and fifteen Courts of Assistants to Magistrates of Districts, including both Europeans and Natives.

Re-organization  
of the Judicial  
Agency.

120. At the commencement of the year 1872, the Judicial Agency of the Province was re-organized and a Judicial Commissioner was appointed for the purpose of relieving the Chief Commissioner of Judicial work, and for supervising the working of the several Courts in the Province, with the exception of those exercising jurisdiction in the Town of Rangoon; at the same time the salary attaching to the office of the Recorder of Rangoon was raised so as to make it equal to that of the Judicial Commissioner. In order to meet this increased expenditure, the office of the Recorder of Moulmein was abolished and a Judge was appointed to that Town on a lower salary.

Working of Ju-  
dicial Courts  
divided into two  
heads.

121. It will conduce to a clearer understanding of the working of the Judicial Courts in the Province if they are treated under the two distinct heads into which by the new organization of the department and by the operation of Act VII of 1872, they are divided, viz:—

(i.)—The Courts exercising jurisdiction in the Town of Rangoon.

(ii.)—The Courts under the supervision of the Judicial Commissioner.

#### COURTS EXERCISING JURISDICTION IN THE TOWN OF RANGOON.

132. *Criminal.*—During the year 1871 there were 38 Sessions trials in the Court of the Recorder of Rangoon and 15 appeals from the Town and Cantonment Magistrates. The Criminal work in this Court has been much the same as the average of the past three years, except that appeals have decreased by more one half since 1869.

Court of the  
Recorder of  
Rangoon. Crimi-  
nal jurisdiction.

123. In the town of Rangoon the number of non-bailable offences reported has decreased from 711 in 1870 to 409 in 1871, while bailable offences have decreased from 2,789 to 2,176 or a total decrease in offences reported of 915. For these 2,585 cases, 2,361 persons were convicted. The average duration of cases in the Town Magistrate's Court was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  days against an average duration of 4 days to each case during the previous year.

Court of the  
Town Magis-  
trate of Ran-  
goon.

124. In the Cantonment of Rangoon there were 21 non-bailable, and 507 bailable cases reported during the year against 28 non-bailable and 505 bailable cases during 1870, or a total decrease of 5 in the number of cases reported. For these 528 offences, 901 persons were convicted.

Cantonment  
Magistrate of  
Rangoon.

125. *Civil.*—In the Court of the Recorder of Rangoon there were on the files during 1871, 295 Regular suits and 383 Miscellaneous suits or 678 cases in all, involving a value of Rs. 5,95,438; of these, 621 suits were disposed of during the year. In the year 1870 1,238 cases, involving claims to the extent of Rs. 8,41,430, were disposed of, that is in the year 1871, there was a decrease of 512, or nearly one half in the number of suits instituted as compared with 1870. The average duration of contested suit

Court of the  
Recorder of  
Rangoon. Civil  
jurisdiction.



disposed of during the year was 2 months and 28 days, from which it is evident that suits are promptly heard in the Recorder's Court, and the Court no doubt gives satisfaction to suitors; the past year having been one of unusual prosperity, business was carried on in a very wholesome and legitimate manner, and the decrease in litigation is a matter for congratulation. As a necessary consequence of this decrease the expenditure of the Court exceeded its income by Rs. 7,858-12, whereas last year there was a surplus of income over expenditure of Rs. 15,167-11.

Rangoon, Court  
of Small Causes.

126. In the Rangoon Small Cause Court during the year 1871 there were 3,322 Regular suits and 2,154 Miscellaneous suits instituted, being a decrease in Regular suits of 433, while there was an increase of 208 in Miscellaneous suits as compared with the previous year. There was a decrease of Rupees 42,034 in the value of suits instituted in 1871 as compared with 1870, and of course a corresponding decrease in the revenue of the Court, namely Rs. 8,326, but there was still a surplus of receipts over expenditure of Rs. 12,535-13-6, owing no doubt to the same cause as that above assigned for the decrease of litigation in the Recorder's Court.

Duration of  
Suits in the  
Small Cause  
Court.

127. The average duration of suits in the Small Cause Court was about ten days, but these figures are apt to give a false impression as to the time involved in the disposal of cases, and the Judge has stated in his report, that in point of fact the cases are heard, as a rule, five days after they are filed, and never more than seven. The Judge satisfactorily explained in his report, the apparent anomaly noticed last year, of suits pending in the Small Cause Court for 4 months. No doubt with a fluctuating population such as that of Rangoon, where the parties and witnesses are constantly running backwards and forwards between the town of Rangoon, India, and Upper Burma, such delays are sometimes unavoidable. The Chief Commissioner believes that the Small Cause Court was worked in

a manner which has given general satisfaction to the inhabitants of the town. On the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner, the Government of India have sanctioned a Burman Judge being added to the Court for the disposal of cases between Burmese; this will no doubt add much to the usefulness and popularity of the Court.

Additional Bur-  
man Judge ap-  
pointed at the  
close of the  
year.

#### COURTS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER.

128. *Criminal.*—The number of non-bailable and bailable offences reported during the year 1871, as compared with the year 1870, was as follows:—

	Non-bailable.	Bailable.	Total.
1870 ... ..	8,549	14,844	23,393
1871 ... ..	9,176	15,803	24,979
<u>Increase</u>	<u>627</u>	<u>958</u>	<u>1,585</u>

129. These figures shew that there was an increase of 627 in the number of non-bailable offences; this increase took place principally in the districts of the Pegu division, especially in Myanoung and Prome, where the increase in non-bailable offences was 448 and 237 respectively. The result is ascribed to better reporting on the part of the Police, and this probably is the case, as the increase is mainly 111 cases of ordinary theft, which may often be not reported.

Increase in non-  
bailable offences  
generally.

130. There was a considerable decrease, viz: 287, in the number of non-bailable offences reported in the Amherst District; the amount of serious crime diminished by one half, a result attributed to the hunting down of a troublesome band of dacoits in the commencement of 1871. In Akyab also, both the Town and the District, there was a satisfactory decrease in crime; and here too the commencement of the year was signalized by the capture of a notorious leader of dacoits and his gang.

Decrease in non-  
bailable offences  
in the districts  
of Amherst and  
Akyab.

131. In bailable offences throughout the Province there was an increase of 958. This must be

Increase in bail-  
able offences.



attributed to the fact that there was an increase in the Town of Moulmein of 551 cases under the heads of assault, nuisance and breaches of Municipal rules. As more attention is paid to Conservancy and Municipal government, no doubt offences of the latter kind will increase.

Comparative statement of number of persons brought to trial, acquitted and convicted in past two years.

132. The following table shews the number of persons brought to trial, acquitted and convicted in those two years:—

Years.	Brought to trial.	Acquitted.	Convicted.
1870 .. .. .	25,148	15,911	17,669
1871 .. .. .	27,049	16,939	18,546
Increase .. .. .	1,901	1,028	877

It will be seen that the per centage of persons convicted out of the number brought to trial was almost the same in both years, viz., 50 per cent.

Comparative statement of number of serious kinds of crimes in past two years.

133. The annexed statement exhibits the number of the most serious kinds of crimes which were reported, and the number of persons brought to trial during the year 1871, as compared with 1870:—

Offences.	Year.	Number of cases reported.	Number of persons brought to trial.
Murder .. .. .	1870	95	159
	1871	76	97
Culpable homicide .. .. .	1870	23	47
	1871	46	42
Grievous hurt .. .. .	1870	113	167
	1871	89	120
Dacoity with Murder .. .. .	1870	89	67
	1871	89	63
Dacoity .. .. .	1870	103	408
	1871	115	509
Robbery .. .. .	1870	170	262
	1871	165	198
Housebreaking .. .. .	1870	551	454
	1871	717	469
Theft .. .. .	1870	7,034	5,307
	1871	8,112	5,567
Total .. .. .	1870	7,865	6,981
	1871	8,829	6,066

The number of cases of murder, dacoity and robbery were much the same during the past as in

the preceding year, while the number of cases of theft and housebreaking increased by more than 1,200. The number of persons brought to trial for the above offences, may be considered satisfactory and creditable to the activity of the Police.

134. The following statement shews that the proportions of convictions also in 1871, was not unfavorable:—

Statement showing per centage of convictions to persons brought to trial for serious offences.

Offences.	Number of persons acquitted.	Number of persons convicted.	Proportion of convictions to number of persons brought to trial.
Murder .. .. .	24	24	50
Culpable homicide .. .. .	3	24	76
Grievous hurt .. .. .	23	61	76
Dacoity with Murder .. .. .	9	50	89
Dacoity .. .. .	63	128	60
Robbery .. .. .	89	86	53
Housebreaking .. .. .	340	214	46
Theft .. .. .	1,800	1,721	67

135. In minor offences the proportion of convictions was not so satisfactory; out of 12,750 persons brought to trial on charges of assault, criminal intimidation or insult and criminal trespass 3,522 only were convicted.

In minor offences proportion of convictions not satisfactory.

136. The state of the files of the Magistrate's Court at the close of 1871 was satisfactory; in the Rangoon district only was any considerable number of persons left under trial, and no case had been pending in the Magisterial Courts over six weeks.

State of files at the close of the year.

137. The average duration of cases in the Magisterial Courts was short, being as follows:—

Duration of cases.

Subordinate Magistrates' Courts.....5.37 days.  
Magistrates.....5.0 „  
Full power Magistrates.....4.8 „

138. Of the total number of witnesses in all the Magistrates' Courts 39,005 were discharged after 1 day, 5,820 after 2 days, 2,005 after 3 days and 1,645 were detained longer than 3 days.

Detention of witnesses.

139. The following statement shews the punishment inflicted by the Magistrates' Courts in 1871, as compared with 1870:—

Punishments inflicted in the past two years.







Duration of trials before the Sessions Courts.

143. Of 591 persons brought before the Courts of Session only 250 were tried by the Sessions Judges, the majority were tried by Deputy Commissioners at Courts of Session held under Section 445 B. These cases will, under the new Code, be tried by the Deputy Commissioners as Magistrates. The high average duration of trials before the Sessions Judges, viz., 47 days before the Commissioner of Tenasserim, 56 days before the Commissioner of Pegu, and 55 days before the Commissioner of Arakan, is long. But it must be remembered that the duration is calculated from the date of commitment, and that there is great difficulty of communication between the Commissioners' head-quarters and some of the districts.

Punishments awarded by the Sessions Court.

144. There were thirty sentences of death passed by Sessions Courts in 1871. The other punishments awarded by those Courts in that year, as compared with the year 1870 were as follows:—

	1870.	1871.
	Persons.	Persons.
Transportation ... ..	49	48
Imprisonment ... ..	204	276
Fined ... ..	11	22

Rupees 10,300, were imposed as fines in 1871, of which only Rs. 1,683, were realized.

Chief Court.

145. The work of the Chief Court of the Province during 1871, was as follows:—

Number of cases appealed or called for ... ..	49
Do. sentences confirmed ... ..	28
Do. modified ... ..	11
Do. reversed ... ..	16

Number of suits instituted, disposed of in the Civil Courts.

146. *Civil.*—The subjoined table shows the number of cases instituted in the different Courts of original jurisdiction, the number disposed of and the state of the files at the close of the year as compared with the previous year:—

Years.	Instituted.	Disposed of.	Pending.
1870	22,325	22,105	519
1871	22,068	21,900	464

147. It will be seen from this that the total number of suits instituted during the year stands at 22,068, as compared with 22,325 instituted in 1870. The decrease is only 257, and is immaterial. In the Rangoon district however, there was a remarkable decrease of 516 in the number of cases instituted during the year as compared with 1870, the figures being respectively 1,982 and 2,498. Small decrease in suits instituted.

148. The bulk of the litigation was carried on in the Courts of the Native Extra Assistant Commissioners who have jurisdiction up to Rs. 500. The Deputy Commissioners tried only 53 original suits. The state of the files at the close of the year was satisfactory. In none of the District Courts had any case been pending over 4 months. The amount of litigation compared with the population appears to be very considerable. Nearly one person in every hundred brought a suit; so that at least 2 per cent of the population must have appeared in our Courts as plaintiff or defendant. The distribution of litigation among the various Courts.

149. The next table shows the character of the original litigation in the different classes of Courts:— Nature of litigation.

Class of Court.	NUMBER OF SUITS INSTITUTED FOR					Number of the preceding year by a Court of Small Causes up to Rs. 500.
	Money due on contract.	Movable property.	Damages.	Personal rights.	Immovable property.	
Extra Assistant Commissioners 3rd Class..	6,405	2,147	1,277	718	745	9,632
Extra Assistant Commissioners 2nd & 1st Class & Assistant Commissioners ..	4,829	900	469	264	271	3,719
Deputy Commissioners ..	23	20	4	157	13	31
Court of Recorder, Moulmein, and Small Causes ..	3,011	137	41	33	23	2,826
Total..	14,278	2,204	1,788	1,472	1,047	16,209



having been sent from the Myanounge lock-up to the Rangoon jail, the falling off in the number imprisoned during the year in this lock-up having been large; and to a less number having been sent from the Prome lock-up to the jail at Thayetmyo.

Releases on payment of fines.

164. The number of prisoners released in 1871 on payment of fines shewed a considerable increase as compared with 1870, viz: 4.14 per cent of prison population to 3.25. This may indicate a greater fear of the punishment of imprisonment in some of our jails; but seeing how light the punishment in the jails is, it is probable that the increased payment of fines is due more to the improved condition of the people, who are now better able to pay fines than formerly.

Number of prisoners under 10 years of age.

165. There were 75 males and 2 females under the age of 16 years imprisoned, of whom 31 males and 1 female were confined in the Rangoon jail. This class of prisoners is increasing yearly in the large towns. All children under the age of 12 should, in accordance with Chapter V of Act XXVI of 1870, the Prisons' Act, be entirely separated from other prisoners. It is believed that there were only two children under this age imprisoned during the year, and that these owing to a misapprehension, were sentenced by the Town Magistrate of Rangoon, under Section 433 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to imprisonment in the Rangoon jail as a reformatory, but as there are no efficient means of segregating juveniles in that prison, the Chief Commissioner thought it right to release the lads, who had been some months in jail on charges of petty theft.

Previous trades and occupations of the prisoners.

166. Of the total jail population of males, 10,698, only 140 or 1.30 per cent were artisans, whilst 84.5 per cent were agriculturists and labourers, men presumed unskilled in any form of handicraft, and the remainder was composed of persons who knew but little of manufactures or other skilled work. With this large proportion of prisoners unskilled in handicraft it is difficult to push on remunerative

manufactures, but it is not always the most paying form of employment that is the most punitive, and however much it may be desired to make the jails self-supporting, all prisoners sentenced to hard labour should, for a certain period after their admission, be kept at the hardest labour available, at least until they shew by their conduct, that they are deserving of lighter employment. It is scarcely probable that the employment of prisoners on punitive but unremunerative labour was the cause of the manufactory out-turn being so low.

167. The crimes for which the jail population of 1871 was sentenced, appear to have been of a much lighter class than those committed in the previous year, for 63.46 per cent were punished with imprisonment for terms not exceeding one year, and 26.47 for periods of more than one year and less than five, in 1871, whilst in 1870 the percentages were 51 and 40 respectively. The number of convicts in the jails in 1871, sentenced to long terms of imprisonment were 1,051 against 767 in 1870; and the number transported beyond seas in the latter year were for life 83, for shorter periods 72; whilst in the former year, 23 only were transported for life and none for shorter periods, as the Rangoon and Moulmein jails were in November 1870, declared places of transportation for convicts for less periods than life, under Section 51 of Act XXV of 1860 (the Code of Criminal Procedure).

A larger percentage of prisoners sentenced for short periods than in the previous year.

168. There was also a considerable increase in the number of prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment, the percentage in 1870 having been 10.44 and in 1871, 13.35. Objections have been raised to this form of punishment on the ground that prison offences are more numerous amongst prisoners so punished, than among those sentenced to hard labour, and that simple imprisonment is no punishment whatever to an idle Burman. This is no doubt correct, but it is not within the power of a Magistrate to sentence to labour in all cases brought before him. The percentage of prisoners sentenced to simple

Increase in the number of prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment.



imprisonment varied considerably in different districts, viz :—

Henzada ... ..	26.97
Prome... ..	2.23
Moulmein ... ..	18.24
Rangoon ... ..	13.75
Akyab... ..	6.03
Bassein ... ..	7.77
Thayetmyo... ..	5.98

It is remarkable that the proportion in Henzada should have been so high. This is probably owing to the activity with which the Police have been hunting up the persons of notorious bad livelihood in that very troublesome district.

Re-convictions.

169. The per centage of re-convictions in 1870 was 12.60 ; in 1871, 12.07.

Escapes.

170. Twenty-six escapes took place in 1871, 23 of whom had unexpired sentences under one year. The per centage of escapes is still very heavy, being 23 to the jail population and 59 to the daily average of prisoners. A reckless determination to escape from jail in defiance of all consequences is one of the peculiarities of the Burman, and then again if he once makes good his escape from jail, his chances of getting across the frontier and remaining at large, places a greater temptation in his way than prisoners of other provinces are exposed to.

Number of escapes less than the average of previous years.

171. The number who escaped in 1871 however, is only about a third of the average annual number who escaped during the previous 7 years, viz : 70. Of the 26 who escaped during 1871, only one was recaptured, but 6 convicts who had escaped in the previous year were brought back to jail, so that the number remaining uncaptured at the end of 1871 was 171 ; 25 out of the 26 escapes in 1871 were from

without the jail, two-fifths of whom formed a portion of wood-cutting gangs. These escapes are almost entirely the result of carelessness on the part of guards with extra-mural gangs. One prisoner only escaped from within the jail at Thayetmyo ; eight under-trial prisoners also escaped, mostly through the bad construction and dilapidated state of the lock-ups.

172. Nine hundred and twelve prisoners, or 7.75 per cent of the jail population of 1870 were punished for offences against prison discipline, and 932 or 8.49 per cent in 1871. Breaches of prison discipline.

173. The mark-system appears to have been tried in the Rangoon and Bassein jails during the year, and to have proved a failure, consequent on the short period of the year during which prisoners can be employed extra-murally, and the danger of employing long-term convicts outside the jails, owing to their attempts to escape. The mark-system however good it may appear in theory, is perfectly inapplicable to such a state of things as exist in British Burma, and it is questionable whether even in the best jails in Europe, with the most trustworthy and trained establishments, such a system is capable of being really honestly worked. Failure of mark-system.

174. The number of persons imprisoned for debt was less in 1871 than in 1870, and the largest daily average number was in the Moulmein jail. In addition to the civil prisoners, included in the jail population, there are a number of debtors detained for short periods from time to time at the headquarters of Extra Assistant Commissioners. These may be looked upon as being in the hands of the bailiffs, and as a rule are only detained for a few days ; it is better that they should be kept in the custody of the bailiff than in the police lock-up. Debtor prisoners.

175. The daily average number of under-trial prisoners was 201 males and 3 females. The death-rate among these prisoners was high. It has been suggested that this is to be accounted for under the Under-trial prisoners.



supposition that the first shock of imprisonment pending trial with the consequent anxiety, renders a mercurial and susceptible race peculiarly obnoxious to disease.

Ticket-of-leave  
convicts.

176. At the beginning of the year, 671 male and 34 female prisoners were on ticket-of-leave; at the close, 622 males and 32 females. During the year 32 males and 2 females died, 7 males were released and 10 were remanded to jail for bad conduct. The death-rate was high, but it will increase rather than diminish in the future, as the majority of these prisoners are very old. These free convicts appear to support themselves respectably by petty trading. Some of the men are very old and infirm, and having spent the greater portion of their lives in exile might, without harm, now be allowed to return to their native country.

Overcrowding  
in the jails of the  
Pegu division.

177. There has been no noteworthy change in jail accommodation, but considerable overcrowding existed in the Pegu division. This will be remedied to a great extent when the new jail sanctioned for the Myanounge district is built; but it is hoped that there will year by year under improved Police administration, be a much smaller prison population to accommodate. Allowing 36 square feet to each prisoner, Rangoon was overcrowded by 151 males, Thayetmyo 164, Henzada 52, Myanounge 26; whilst Moulmein jail had an average number of prisoners below capacity of 771, Akyab 135, Bassein 142, Toungoo 233, Kyouk-phyoo 487, Sandoway 185, Tavoy 72 and Mergui 90.

Health of the  
prison population  
generally good.

178. The percentage of sick to the daily average number confined was 3.37 in 1871 and 3.79 in 1870; and of deaths 2.65 and 4.60 respectively. In 1869, the percentage of sick to the daily average was 4.15, and of deaths 5.28. The sickness and mortality in the year of report was therefore very favourable as compared with that in previous years. The death-rate at Akyab, Toungoo and Kyouk-phyoo, was high. The first named jail is no doubt unhealthy to

a certain extent; it is in a bad state of repair, and in consequence of the walls being close to the wards, air and light are excluded and a close damp smell pervades the place. Orders have been issued for a new jail at Akyab as soon as funds will permit; the present jail being turned into a workyard. At Thayetmyo also the death-rate was high, owing to overcrowding, diarrhoea and dysentery, which are the forms of sickness most commonly induced by overcrowding, being prevalent. The highest death-rate was naturally among prisoners over 50 years of age, and among those above 10 years' imprisonment. Happily there was no cholera during the year and only 5 deaths from small pox. Ulcers were prevalent in the Rangoon jail and are said to have been in some degree attributable to the stoppage of oil and condiments. This disease, which is in this Province confined to this one jail, is, it is feared, partly due to overcrowding, and partly to trickery on the part of the prisoners who purposely incapacitate themselves for hard labour.

179. Nearly all the prisoners convicted of petty crimes in the large towns were opium-eaters or smokers. Almost every prisoner received into the Akyab jail was an opium-eater. The prisoners generally and especially opium-eaters, appear to have improved in health whilst in jail. The health of prisoners on the whole has been remarkably good in 1871, but there is still room for improvement as regards Akyab, Thayetmyo, Kyouk-phyoo and Toungoo.

Prisoners very  
generally  
opium-eaters.

180. The average number of prisoners liable to labour during the year was 3,787, of whom 752 were employed on jail service,—283 male and 6 female prisoners being employed as warders, overseers and guards, of whom 47 were punished for misconduct, which seems to indicate a want of care in the selection of convict warders—131 were employed in the jail gardens; 338 on repairs, &c. to jail buildings; 258 on labour outside jails; 45 were confined in solitary cells; 286 were sick and infirm; and the remainder were employed on intramural labour.

Average number  
of prisoners  
liable to labour.



Total estimated earnings of prisoners.

181. The total estimated earnings from all sources during the year 1871, was £8,894-8-10.\* Endeavours appear to have been made to arrive at a fair estimate of the value of the work performed. The jail gardens seem in some instances, especially at Kyouk-phyoo and Bassein, not to have been attended to, and were even worse than in 1870. A large quantity of vegetables had to be purchased for the diet of prisoners throughout the Province, which, assuredly ought, in some jails at least, to have been grown in the gardens and attended to by prison labour.

Cash receipts on account of jail manufactures.

182. The actual cash paid into the Treasury on account of jail manufactures during the year appears to have been £2,563-14-8, for which amount credit has been taken as earnings, but the actual earnings in the manufacturing department, allowing for increase of stock etc., were £3,090-7-4.

Loss on manufactures in Moulmein and Thayetmyo jails.

183. There were actual losses instead of profit on manufactures in the Moulmein and Thayetmyo jails, in the one £232-15-1 in the other £29-16-11. Very bad management existed at Moulmein, but the loss at Thayetmyo is explained by the fact that over £100 worth of sessamum seed was purchased towards the end of the year for the manufacture of oil, which was not worked up.

Value of stock and plant.

184. The value of manufactured articles in store, and of plant, increased to the extent of £1,182-6-10, whilst the value of raw material decreased by £30-5-5.

Average estimated earnings per head.

185. The average estimated earnings of the prisoners sentenced to labour during the year, were £2-4-9 per head, varying from £7-12-2 at Toungoo,

\* For Value of labour employed on bond side jail duties—

Servants .. .. .	14,320	8	0
Buildings, &c. .. .	8,432	4	10
Cleaning rice, making clothing, &c. 21,907	0	1	
Jail gardens .. .	6,982	1	7
Cash profits of manufacture .. .	20,106	7	4
Value of labour to Municipalities, &c. ....	12,393	0	0
	<u>£8,894</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>

£8,894 8 10

to £4-17-10 at Akyab, £4-7-7 at Tavoy, £2-14-5 at Rangoon and £1-0-10 at Thayetmyo.

186. The average number of prisoners employed in remunerative labour, exclusive of work pertaining directly to the jails, such as growing vegetables, cleaning rice, making clothes, &c., was 2,000, and their earnings were as follows:—

Earnings of prisoners employed in remunerative labour.

	£	s	d
Cash profits on manufactures .. .. .	2,563	14	8
Value of printing done and credited by Accountant General .. .. .	3,805	0	8
Value of Articles supplied to Public Departments and credited by Accountant General ..	85	13	2
Broken Stone, &c., supplied to Public Works Department .. .. .	698	15	0
Increase in value of outstandings, stock, &c. ....	1,681	11	9
	<u>8,834</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>3</u>
Less cost of raw material .. .. .	5,481	15	11
Loss at Moulmein and Thayetmyo .. .. .	263	12	1
	<u>5,744</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>
Balance .. .. .	3,090	7	3
Labour supplied to Municipalities, Public Works Department, &c. ....	1,320	3	3
Net earnings, ...£	<u>4,410</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>

which is equal to £2-4-1 per head. In 1870, the net ascertained earnings were £7,670-18-0, or £3-7-6 per head, on the average number employed, viz: 2,271. There was therefore a very large decrease in 1871, both in the net amount earned, and in the rate per head. The cost of raw materials was much greater in the year of report than in the previous year.

187. The question of jail manufactures has been under serious consideration, and it has been determined to introduce Jute spinning and weaving machinery into the large Central Jail at Rangoon, which hitherto has had no means of effectively employing its large population of over 2,000 convicts. But little attention has heretofore been given by Jail officers

Proposed introduction of Jute spinning machinery into the Rangoon Jail.



in this Province to this important matter, and in one or two instances the manufactures introduced have been carried on at a loss rather than a profit, owing in some measure to a want of care on the part of the officers concerned. The great desideratum is a form of intramural labour which shall at the same time be punitive and profitable, for, as has been before stated, it is impossible to employ large gangs of Burmese long-term prisoners extramurally. The introduction of machinery for Jute spinning, Cotton ginning, Oil pressing, Sawing and other work, seems to be the most feasible method of effecting this. It has therefore been considered desirable to purchase machinery, which will keep the prisoners employed and will give a large annual return on the outlay, as it is out of the question to go on as heretofore without any machinery among a people, scarcely any of whom know any handicraft.

Expenditure on account of Jails, exclusive of Public Works charges.

188. The total expenditure on account of the jails, excluding Public Works Department charges and cost of inspection, was £24,378-3-8 made up as follows:—

	£.	s.	d.	Per head.	£.	s.	d.
Rations ... ..	11,249	4	6		2	8	1
Fixed Establishments	5,204	18	6		1	2	0
Police Guards ... ..	4,977	12	0		1	1	0
Extra Establishments	261	0	2		0	1	1
Hospital charges ... ..	569	17	2		0	2	5
Clothing ... ..	650	4	0		0	2	11
Contingencies ... ..	1,465	10	4		0	6	2
	<u>£ 24,378</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>£ 3</u>	<u>6</u>	

The expenditure in 1870 was £25,324-9-4 equal to £5-4-2 per head, but whilst the aggregate expenditure in 1871 was £946-5-9 less, the decrease per head was 6d. consequent on the fixed charges falling heavier on a smaller number of prisoners.

Causes of decrease in the expenditure.

189. The principal decrease was in the cost of rations, consequent on more favorable contracts having been entered into for the Rangoon and Thayetmyo

jails, and in the cost of establishment, owing to the Rangoon jail having had during about half the year as Officiating Superintendent, an officer of the Commission, who drew house-rent only from the Jail department; and to the Bassein and Moulmein prisons having been superintended by the Magistrates for a considerable period of the year, free of charge. The charges for transfers are still excessive.

190. The jail at Thayetmyo was the most economically managed as far as the rate per head is a test viz: £4-8-2 and the lock-up at Mergui the most expensively—the rate per head having been £10-15-7, but the difference is almost entirely due to the fact that in the one prison, there was a very large, and in the other a very small number of prisoners, over which the fixed charges had to be divided thus:—

Comparative cost of the Jails and Lock-ups.

	Thayetmyo.	Mergui.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rations... ..	2 12 0	2 15 3
Fixed Establishment ... ..	0 13 4	2 8 8
Police guards ... ..	0 16 7	4 12 7
Hospital charges ... ..	0 2 1	0 0 5
Clothing ... ..	0 0 6	0 1 5
Contingencies ... ..	0 3 8	0 17 3
Total .. ..	<u>4 8 2</u>	<u>10 15 7</u>

191. The cost per head at Toungoo was £10-2; this was due to the heavy charges for fixed establishment and Police guards, being divided over 74 convicts only—these charges alone being £7-14-1 per head. The average number of prisoners confined at Toungoo appears to be about 80, while at Thayetmyo, it is from 5 to 7 times that number, yet the cost of Police guards at the former jail is but little below that at the latter, and probably it is not possible to make any reduction. It does not follow that because the cost per head is higher in one jail than another, that the former has necessarily been managed without due regard to economy. There are certain items of expense which must be incurred in every jail, and of course these fall with a heavier

Explanation of the excessive cost per head at the Toungoo Jail.



incidence per head on a jail with a small than on a jail with a large population. With the great distances between, and isolation of some of the sadder stations in this Province, it is difficult to divide the prison population equally over the jails, and some prisons will always be overcrowded with a small charge per head for fixed establishment and guards, whilst others will have but few prisoners, and these charges will be very high per head. The cost of rations per head at Tongoo was considerably less than that at Thayetmyo, whilst at Mergui, it was but little more than at Thayetmyo.

Aggregate cost  
of the Jail de-  
partment.

192. The aggregate cost of the jails for maintenance as shown in a previous paragraph was £24,378-3-8 equal to £5-3-8 per head, in addition to which a sum of £1,509-12-3 was expended on new jails and in repairs, &c., and £1,825-10-6 as inspection charges; the total expenditure was therefore £27,711-6-5 or £5-17-9 per head; but from this must be deducted £4,410-10-6 as the net earnings of prisoners, which leaves a net expenditure of £23,300-15-11, equalling £4-19-2 per head, as against a net expenditure of £22,062-11-7, equivalent to £4-10-9 per head in 1870. The expenditure on public works during the year was very small. In the current year it will be much greater since a new jail is in course of construction at Tavoy, and it is likely to be large for some years to come as the jails at Akyab and Kyauk-phyoo are far from being in a proper state, and a new prison is necessary at Henzada for the large and populous district of Myanong.

Education

193. Of the total number of prisoners received into the jails during the year, viz: 6,588—3,064 or 46·5 per cent were unable to read or write, and 3,524 or 53·5 per cent could read and write, 2,210 being able to do so a little and 1,314 well. The per centage in 1870 of those who could read and write was 80. It is clear that there has been a different method followed this year in making this calculation to that which was pursued last year, as it seems impossible

that the per centage of the jail population, able to read and write, should in one year fall from 80 per cent to 53·5 per cent.

#### D.—Police.

194. The Province of British Burma has an area of <sup>Area and popu-  
lation.</sup> 94,000 square miles: the population, which numbered on the 31st December 1870, 2,419,736 souls, increased during 1871 by 70,587 or 2·88 per cent, and stood on the 31st December 1871 at 2,262,323. It is very essential, in comparing the crime of one year with another, to pay due regard to this fact. When a population increases with such rapidity, and that to a great extent by the influx of people from Upper Burma, not accustomed to the strict control, to which our people are subjected, and many of them it is to be feared, persons whose residence in Upper Burma, has been rendered uncomfortable by their own misdeeds, it is obvious that a proportionate increase is made to the criminal classes of the country.

195. The Police establishment during the year con- <sup>Strength of  
Police Force.</sup> sisted of 5,634 Imperial Police of all grades, costing £116,799, and 570 Municipal Police, paid from local funds, costing £12,385. The charge for Police was less than ten per cent of the Imperial revenue; thus the population paid for the protection of person and property during the year as nearly as possible, one shilling per head. Excluding the Police employed over jails and treasuries, the charge of each Policeman in the district consisted of nineteen square miles and 484 members of the population; while in the towns there was an average of one Policeman to 444 of the population.

196. The total number of offences cognizable by <sup>Number of  
offences cogniz-  
able by the  
Police.</sup> the Police, which have been ascertained during the year to have been committed, were 14,226; while in 1870 there were 13,959, so that there has been a scarcely perceptible increase of crime, during the year. Practically it may be said, the amount of crime has been stationary.



Decrease in  
murders.

197. Murder has decreased from 103 cases (of which 19 were by dacoits,) to 86 (of which 12 were by dacoits.) Convictions were obtained in 34 cases and against 48 persons, out of 125 brought to trial. Though it is a satisfaction to find that the crime has fallen off, the Police has not been so successful in their detection of the offenders of this class as in other respects. Of the murders, 31 were from jealousy or from causes connected with women, 28 for plunder, 27 from private malice or other unknown causes. It is curious that there were this year no murders by criminal lunatics, though there were 18 of this class in the previous year.

Decrease in dacoity.

198. Again in dacoity, there is a satisfactory decrease from 132, to 118 cases. This is a great falling off from 1867 and 1868, when there were 213 and 172 cases respectively. Of these 118 cases, no less than 23 were the work of foreign marauders, over whom the Police could exercise no control, except so far as they can act as a preventive body on a wild and extensive frontier of a thousand miles. Convictions were obtained in 44 cases, or 41 per cent of those that occurred, and of 254 persons brought to trial for dacoity, 125 or 50 per cent were convicted, while in the previous year, 59 per cent were convicted.

Increase in robbery, house-breaking and theft.

199. While however these violent crimes have decreased, others such as robbery, housebreaking and theft have increased: no doubt in many cases the persons who before committed dacoity have now taken to the less hazardous crimes of robbery and housebreaking. During 1871 robbery rose from 163 to 193 cases. This was mainly due to an increase in the Thayetmyo and Prome districts of the Pegu division. In the Arakan division this crime somewhat decreased, and in Tenasserim it stood much the same as during the previous year. The action of the Police against the crime did not materially differ from that of previous years. Housebreaking increased from 619 to 673 cases and there was a slight falling off in detection. Ordinary theft increased

from 6,033 to 6,882 cases, entirely due to the Pegu division. In the other two divisions the crime somewhat diminished. Thirty-nine per cent of all cases reported were carried to conviction and seventy-five per cent of all persons brought to trial for this offence were convicted. On the whole the action of the Police, though not differing much in its results in regard to these crimes for the last year, has not been altogether satisfactory.

200. One of the great difficulties which the Police have to deal with, in Burma, is the prevalence of cattle-theft. It is the crime which more than any other perhaps, affects the people at large, after the more violent crime of dacoity, and it is very satisfactory to find, that it has decreased from 1,358 to 847 cases, or 37 per cent. In this thinly populated country, where the cattle are turned loose into the jungles, it is a crime easily committed, and the high price of cattle in the neighbourhood of Rangoon, offers a great inducement to the commission of this crime.

201. The value of property stolen, has decreased from Rupees 5,56,365 to Rupees 4,97,269, and the proportion recovered has also fallen, but is still fairly high, being 29 per cent.

202. For cognizable offences, throughout the Province, during the year, 16,679 persons were put on their trial, against 18,656 in the previous year; 12,819 or 67 per cent, were convicted, against 13,956 or 73 per cent. There is a remarkable fact mentioned in the report of the Inspector General of Police, namely, the variation of the proportion of cognizable offences to population, in the three divisions: in the Pegu division, there was one cognizable offence to 150 of the population, in Tenasserim one to 218, and in Arakan one to 331.

203. All cognizable offences are now divided under six great classes of crime, and a consideration of the results obtained under each of these six heads



Decrease in number of cases under class I.

Increase in number of cases under class II.

Increase in number of cases under class III.

Decrease in number of cases under class IV.

Increase in number of cases under class V.

Necessity for some revision of the Gambling Act as regards this Province.

will show in convenient groups, both the course of crime and the action of the Police. Under Class I.—Offences against the State, public tranquillity, safety, and justice—the number has fallen from 354 in 1870, to 313 in 1871-72; 79 per cent of the cases decided ended in conviction, against 78 per cent, and the proportion of persons convicted to those brought to trial, was 66, against 69 per cent the previous year. Under class II.—Serious offences against the person—the number has slightly increased from 482 to 494 cases; convictions were obtained in 58 per cent of the cases decided, against 60 per cent the previous year: and 59 per cent of those persons brought to trial were convicted, against 57 per cent in 1870. Under class III.—Serious offences against person and property, or against property only—the number of offences has risen from 847 to 955, the increase being in robbery, housebreaking, and serious mischief; 26 per cent of cases decided, were carried to conviction, against 39 per cent in 1870; and 54 per cent of persons brought to trial, were convicted against 55 per cent. Under class IV.—Minor offences against the person—the number of offences has fallen, from 100 to 59; the proportion of cases in which conviction was obtained to those decided, was the same in both years viz: 70 per cent, while the proportion of persons convicted to those brought to trial, improved from 55 to 63 per cent. Under class V.—Minor offences against property—the number has increased from 8,441 to 8,631; 43 per cent of cases decided were carried to conviction, against 59 per cent in 1870; while the proportion of persons convicted to those brought to trial was 73 per cent, against 68 per cent the previous year.

204. The Inspector General of Police urged strongly in his report the necessity of some revision, as regards its application to British Burma, of the present Gambling Act. He pointed out that while in 1866, the year before the introduction of the Act, the Police brought up 1,382 cases of gambling, and obtained convictions against 6,976 persons, during the past year they only brought up 533 cases and

obtained convictions against 2,397 persons. This diminution of cases brought up was not due to a reduction in the amount of crime, for undoubtedly gambling is much more largely indulged in now than in 1866, but it cannot be reached by the present law. Gambling is peculiarly attractive and at the same time hurtful to the Burman population; when a Burman can join in it he will do so, and the effect is so demoralizing and pernicious that among the Magistracy it is almost an axiom of criminal administration in the Province that prevalence of gambling means prevalence of crime.

205. The Chief Commissioner finds, that nearly every Magistrate, European or Burmese, is impressed with the necessity of such a change in the gambling law, as would bring this very prevalent and mischievous habit more under the control of the Magistracy and especially of those subordinate officers who have not the full powers of Magistrates. At present, the Act is entirely evaded by the gamblers adjourning beyond the limits of the towns to which the Act has been extended, and it will always be impossible to bring the Act to bear effectively on this evil, unless it is extended to the whole country. This was reported to the Government of India in the letter from this Administration, No. 140-12, dated 8th February 1870, but the Government declined to take action in the matter.

206. There had been during the previous two years, considerable excitement regarding the proposed erection by the King of Burma, of a Htee, or gold umbrella on the Shwe-dagon Pagoda at Rangoon. It so affected the public mind that in 1870, the then Chief Commissioner, General Fytche, asked His Majesty to postpone the ceremony. In November 1871, however, it took place, and the umbrella was sent down and made over by the Chief Commissioner to the elders of the town, and erected with great ceremony and rejoicing. Notwithstanding the excitement which prevailed, the Police arrange-

Nearly every one impressed with the necessity of a change in the Gambling law so as to bring this mischievous habit more under control.

Police arrangements in Town of Rangoon excellent during the erection of the Htee on the Shwe Dagon Pagoda.



ments were excellent, and with the population of the town of Rangoon, temporarily doubled for weeks by the influx of people coming to see the raising of the Htee, crime was in no way increased, and order was admirably preserved. It was a common remark among the people, that they were able to go about in the immense crowd without fear, wearing their jewels.

Details regarding internal management of the force.

207. The details given in appendix D-6 refer to the general internal management of the force during the year. The sanctioned establishment was 6,174, somewhat higher than in 1869, when the strength was 5,932. The number of men who left the force at their own request has been 1,410 in 1867, 1,303 in 1868, 1,138 in 1869, 962 in 1870, and 998 in 1871. The proportion who took their voluntary discharge during the last two years is the same viz: 16 per cent. As in previous years, it is found that resignations in the Amherst and Shwe-gyen districts are very numerous indeed; excluding these two districts, the average proportion of resignations for the Province is only 10 per cent. In the Amherst and Shwe-gyen districts, it is necessary to entertain a great variety of the indigenous races, Shans, Karens, Tounghoos, and Karennees, and they will not give continuous service. During the past year however, the number of resignations in the Shwe-gyen district is, even for it, abnormally high, and the cause will be more fully investigated.

Decrease in number of men dismissed for misconduct.

208. In addition to those who left the force voluntarily, 421 men were dismissed for misconduct; this is an improvement on the previous year, when from a smaller establishment, 473 men were discharged. The proportion of the force therefore dismissed, has fallen from 7.9, to 6.8 per cent. In the Town and District of Rangoon, the proportion discharged for misconduct is high, but in the other districts the variation is not great. Beside the men who were thus removed from the establishment, 365 were discharged from change of stations, reduction of temporary establishments, and other causes, not

Men discharged for other reasons.

involving misconduct. In 1870 the number was 277. Thus the total number who left the force for the foregoing three main reasons, was 1,774 or 28 per cent of the establishment. The proportion was the same as during the previous year, which again was an improvement on the preceding one; the percentages have been 36 in 1867, 34 in 1868, and 32 in 1869.

209. The number of men punished by the Magistracy during the past year is much fewer than in 1870, but that was an exceptionally high year. For the past three years the number are as follows; those punished Magisterially under the Police Act were 58 in 1869, 101 in 1870, and 45 in 1871; while those punished under the Indian Penal Code have been 126, 166 and 132, during these respective years. The proportions in the Rangoon and Myan-oung districts are above the average of the Province. The desertions from the force have been 56 in 1870, and 51 in 1871. In none of the districts are they exceptionally high.

Fewer men punished by the Magistracy than in the previous year.

210. The number of men specially rewarded for good service has been, by promotion 14, and by money grants 18. This is much below what it should be, especially in respect to rewards by promotion. With such a power in their hands, as is afforded by their being able to promote for good conduct, the district Superintendents ought to be able to make the force far more efficient than it is; detective merit should especially be recognised.

Rewards for good service.

211. Full details of the composition of the force are given in Appendix D-7, from which it will be seen, there are 41 Europeans, 21 Eurasians, and 5,894 Natives on the establishment. These are thus sub-divided.—Of the officers (including sergeants on Rs. 20 per mensem), 61 were Europeans or Eurasians, 48 Mahomedans, 22 Hindoos, 342 Burmans and 18 of other indigenous races viz: 11 Karens, 1 Shan, 2 Khyins, 1 Karennee, 3 Thounghoos; then of the

Details of the nationality of force.



men, 23 are Christians, 872 Mahomedans, 559 Hindoos, 3,526 Burmans, 153 Karens, 134 Shans, 79 Khyins, 82 Karennees, and 37 Tounghthoos.

Proportion of  
aliens to Bur-  
mese in the  
Police force.

212. In the Arakan division there are many Mahomedan and Hindoo inhabitants who cannot now be described as aliens, the proportion of the Police of these races is therefore high in that division. In the Rangoon district again, the proportion of Police other than Burmese is small. They are employed in the Town and Cantonment of Rangoon where there is a large foreign population, and used as guards over jails, for which duty Burmans are peculiarly unsuited. For criminal work among the indigenous population it may be stated, that Police drawn from that population are used. And so for some parts of the Province, such as the frontiers in the Arakan and Amherst divisions, we employ the people on the spot,—Karens, Shans, and Khyins.

Set. or is

213. In some of the districts, the schools appear to have been kept up so far as the call upon the men's time would permit. In Rangoon and Prome, the force has not been sufficiently strong to permit of men being taken away for purposes of instruction.

Station houses.

214. The important work of improving the Station houses has been actively and economically carried on, without the intervention of the Public Works Department.

Death of two  
valuable officers  
during the year.

215. During the year, the services of two valuable officers were lost. Mr. Scott, a very promising young officer, was shot at night, by his own men, while engaged in capturing a desperate dacoit leader, on a dark night; the dacoit jumped out of the verandah after being engaged in a struggle with Mr. Scott, in which both were wounded, and Mr. Scott followed him, the Police fired, and killed them both. Mr. Doyle, the Superintendent of Police Rangoon, died during the year. He was an officer of great activity; had a thorough knowledge of the

people, their language and habits, and had great detective ability. It is gratifying to find that the Burman population of the town held him in such regard, that they have volunteered to erect a tomb to his memory.

### P.—Marine.

216. The following statements shew the numbers of vessels which have entered and left the principal ports of the Province during each of the last three years :—

Numbers and ton-  
nage of vessels  
which entered  
and left the  
principal ports  
of the Province.

#### ENTERED.

Ports.	1869-70.		1870-71.		1871-72.	
	Vessels	Tonnage	Vessels	Tonnage	Vessels	Tonnage
Akyab .. ..	256	105,862	299	141,315	256	122,061
Rangoon .. ..	698	298,732	680	313,908	620	339,610
Bassein .. ..	70	33,800	58	32,954	66	41,611
Moulmein .. ..	450	141,263	460	144,575	472	162,947
Total .. ..	1,474	579,247	1,476	632,572	1,414	673,429

#### CLEARED.

Ports.	1869-70.		1870-71.		1871-72.	
	Vessels	Tonnage	Vessels	Tonnage	Vessels	Tonnage
Akyab .. ..	223	96,257	289	149,618	262	120,293
Rangoon .. ..	709	307,069	719	329,941	732	359,104
Bassein .. ..	83	41,515	66	33,636	67	41,375
Moulmein .. ..	535	180,261	514	161,520	509	163,065
Total .. ..	1,560	594,642	1,596	633,822	1,637	673,759

It will be seen that there has been a steady increase in tonnage, but the adoption of the financial year is very misleading in respect to each year's tonnage which of course follows the rice season.

Steady increase  
in tonnage.



Increase in steamer traffic on the Irrawaddy.

217. An increase also took place in the steam traffic on the Irrawaddy. The steamers of the Irrawaddy Flotilla and Burmese Steam Navigation Company, which are under contract with the Government for the conveyance of the mails, made 48 trips upwards and 43 downwards; those of the India General Steam Navigation Company, 15 trips up and 18 down; and those of the King of Burma 6 up and the same number down.

Decrease in the number of boats passing up and down the river.

218. In addition to the traffic by steamers and flat

Years.	Exports.		Imports.		Total.	
	No. of Boats.	Tonnage.	No. of Boats.	Tonnage.	No. of Boats.	Tonnage.
1870-71	12,641	122,122	11,814	123,340	24,455	245,462
1871-72	9,308	19,405	10,044	104,026	19,352	123,431
Decrease.	3,333	102,717	1,770	119,314	5,103	122,031

there is a very large carrying trade by boats, as shown in the margin. The figures for 1871-72 show a considerable

decrease as compared with those for 1870-71, from which it would appear that the increased number of steamers plying has commenced to affect the number of boats passing up and down the river.

Accidents to shipping in entering the Rangoon and Moulmein rivers.

219. Several accidents unfortunately occurred during the year among the shipping in entering and leaving the Rangoon river, through grounding resulting in most instances in total loss, which were mainly due to the recklessness and carelessness of certain of the European pilots. Each case was carefully investigated and the pilots were severely punished in all cases in which culpable neglect was established. A few cases of grounding also took place in the Moulmein river, which however were free from very serious consequences, with one exception.

Government steamer Nemeis unfit for further service.

220. The steamer "Nemeis" was employed in the Province throughout the year. This vessel is now old and almost unfit for further service. She is not capable of performing the services required of the only gun steamer in the Province, and cannot visit and relieve the Light-houses except in very fine weather.

221. No alteration took place during the year in the arrangements for the conveyance of the mails between Calcutta, the principal ports of the Province and the Straits ports; between Rangoon and Madras; between Moulmein and the Southern stations of the Tenasserim division; nor in the mail service on the Irrawaddy.

No alteration in the Mail service between Calcutta and the Province generally.

222. Early in the year an agreement was entered into with the British India Steam Navigation Company, for communication by steamer once a fortnight between Akyab, Kyouk-phyoo, and Sandoway during the North-East monsoon, and to Kyouk-phyoo only during the South-West monsoon. This service has been regularly carried on since June 1871.

Mail service by steamer established on the Arakan Coast.

223. During the year also a line of steamers was established between Great Britain and Rangoon via the Suez Canal, which has the effect of adding considerably to the direct imports of the principal port of the Province. As soon as a sufficient number of steamers has been obtained for this line it is intended to make the service a regular monthly one. Another effect of the opening of the Suez Canal has been the employment of steamers in the conveyance of rice to Europe and China, a large number having loaded in Rangoon during the present season, and several at Akyab.

Line of Steamers to Rangoon direct via the Suez Canal.

224. The Light-houses on the coast of this Province which have been erected from Imperial Funds, are the "Alguada" on the reef of that name, off the mouth of the Bassein River; the "Cocos" on Table Islands, the most northerly of the "Cocos" group of Islands in the Bay of Bengal; and the "Krishna" on a shoal so named which forms the most southerly portion of the Baragua flat, Gulf of Martaban, about 60 miles from the mouth of the Rangoon river. The Light-houses, the cost of which has been debited to Port Funds, are, one on Double Island, off Amherst, at the entrance to the Moulmein river; one off the Port of Akyab; and two off the Port of Rangoon, one of which is at the mouth of the river of

Light-houses.



that name; and the other about 3 miles North-east of the China Bukeer branch of the river Irrawaddy. The whole of these Light-houses have been worked satisfactorily during the year. A new Light-house was commenced on the Oyster reef, off the Port of Akyab, towards the close of 1871, and some progress was made in putting down the piles before the last South-West monsoon set in, but the heavy weather with which the monsoon commenced did considerable damage to the works, owing to the thoughtlessness of the Contractor's agents who left the wooden staging in the piles.

### III.—STATISTICS OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

#### A.—Finance.

225. At the commencement of the year under report the Supreme Government made over to the control and management of the Local Government certain departments made over to the control and management of Local Government.

225. At the commencement of the year under report the Supreme Government made over to the control and management of the Local Government, certain departments of the administration and granted permanently from the imperial revenues for the maintenance of these departments a fixed annual assignment. The departments thus made over are the following:—

Jails	Printing
Registration	Roads
Police	Miscellaneous Public Improvements.
Education	Civil Buildings.
Medical Services	
(except Medical establishments.)	

The finance and revenue accounts of the Province are therefore now shewn under three heads—Imperial—Provincial—and Local Funds.

226. The gross receipts of revenue from all sources during the year under report were £1,363,453, of which £1,217,053 were on account of the Imperial

Government, £37,320 Provincial Services, and £109,079 Local Funds. As compared with the collections in 1870-71, these amounts show an increase in imperial revenue of £40,534, Provincial Services £8,912, and Local Funds £2,985, the aggregate collections in that year having been £1,311,021, of which £1,176,519 were imperial, £38,408 Provincial, and £106,094 Local Funds.

227. This revenue may be considered very satisfactory, seeing that the country although large in extent, has a population of only 27 persons to the square mile. The population of British Burma in 1870-71 numbered 2,491,736 souls, and in the year under report 2,562,323 so that these receipts give an incidence in the former year of 10s. 6½d. per head, 9s. 5¼d. being imperial, 2½d. provincial, and 10½d. local; and in the latter year of 10s. 7½d. per head, of which 9s. 6d. were imperial, 3½d. provincial, and 10d. local.

228. The expenditure on the Civil Administration of the Province including refunds and drawbacks, charges of collection under certain heads, and the cost of opium, during the year of review, aggregated £496,714, whilst that of the previous year amounted to £497,002. Deducting these sums from the imperial receipts for the two years, balances of £757,659 and £707,925 respectively, remained available for Military and Public Works expenditure, and for contributions to the Post Office, Electric Telegraph, and a share of the cost of the Central Government. But after allowing liberally for all these heads, a considerable surplus was available for expenditure in India. The Local Funds disbursements in 1871-72 amounted to £134,591, and in the year preceding to £102,802. The principal sources of income and items of expenditure will be reviewed in detail.

#### IMPERIAL RECEIPTS.

229. Land Revenue.—The realization from "land and Revenue tax," "capitation tax," "land assessment in lieu of capitation tax," "fisheries," "sale proceeds of waste lands," &c., aggregated £646,416 in 1871-72, against £597,620 in the year preceding, thus shewing an in-

Expenditure on Civil Administration.



crease of £48,796. This increase is however, partly accidental and explained by the fact, that a considerable amount of revenue which properly belonged to the previous year was collected in the year under review.

230. In the demand for 1871-72 as will be seen from the *Fiscal* section of this Report, there was an important comparative increase. The following figures give the collections and assessments under this head during the last five years :—

Years.		Collections		Demand.
		£		£
1867-69	...	585,442	...	583,752
1868-69	...	568,539	...	594,492
1869-70	...	628,957	...	609,051
1870-71	...	597,620	...	632,621
1871-72	...	646,416	...	654,655

It will be observed that there has been a steady increase in the amount assessed. The principal increase in the demand for the year under review, arises from land tax, on account of the considerable additional quantity of land under assessment. Under capitation tax also a large increase has taken place from the additional numbers taxed.

231. *Forests.*—The revenue derived from Timber, &c., sold and from the frontier tax levied at Kadoe was £77,240 in 1871-72, and £81,812 in 1870-71, showing a decrease in the year under report of £4,572. This decrease is chiefly attributed to a large sum outstanding from sale of timber by auction, and on indent by the Public Works Department (£6,279) not adjusted until after the close of the year under review, thus necessitating its being shown as revenue in the succeeding year's accounts. There is an improvement in the duty on foreign timber, due probably to the greater tranquillity of the Salween frontier and consequently the facilitated working of the forests beyond; also an increase on per-

mit fees through the lapse and re-sale of permits in the Sittang division at greatly enhanced rates.

232. *Excise.*—The receipts under this head showed a decrease in the year of report as compared with the year preceding, the amounts realized having been £99,564 and £110,618 respectively. This decrease is attributed to the annual sales of licenses usually held in March not taking place till April 1872. The decrease has however been partly counterbalanced by larger sales of opium to the farmers.

233. From *Assessed taxes* a smaller sum was realized in 1871-72 than in 1870-71; the collections in the latter year amounted to £25,157 and in the former to £8,865. The decrease of £16,292 is due to the reduction in the rate of income tax levied in the year under report.

234. Owing to the great improvement in the rice trade in 1871-72 after the cessation of the Franco-Prussian War, the collections on account of *Customs dues* amounted to £308,380; the receipts in the previous year having only been £277,265. The amount realized this year shows the largest sum ever collected in the Province on this account, and the increase is chiefly due to the enhanced shipment of grain from Rangoon, Moulmein and Bassein, to Europe and the Eastern ports, and also to the large importation of general merchandize direct from foreign ports.

235. There was a slight falling off in the *Salt* revenue. The total amount collected on imported salt and that manufactured locally during 1871-72, as compared with the collections in the previous year being £11,900 and £12,053 respectively. The excise duty on this article is decreasing year by year as the local manufacture is giving way before the importation of foreign salt, on which a duty of three annas per maund is collected through the Customs department.



in the year 1871-72 to £3,969. In 1870-71 the receipts were included in the accounts of the Public Works Department, and were not separately recorded for Provincial Services.

#### LOCAL FUNDS RECEIPTS.

Increase generally in Local Funds receipts.

249. The revenue derived from *Local Funds* showed an improvement in the year of report, as compared with the previous year, the amounts for the two years being £109,079 and £106,094 respectively. This increase is attributable to the actual receipts from most of the local funds throughout the Province having increased.

#### MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.

Heads of Account appertaining to other Governments.

250. The following heads of account appertain to other Governments :—

Heads.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1871-72.	
			Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
Postal Department ...	10,939	11,211	272	...
Electric Telegraph do. ...	15,580	17,988	2,408	...
Money Order do. ...	44,545	43,949	...	596
Military do. ...	73,374	42,636	...	30,738
Public Works do. ...	51,094	174,196	123,102	...
India and other Governments	74,732	54,774	...	19,958
Bills of do. ...	32,836	32,038	...	798

Causes of decrease and increase.

251. The decrease in the Military department is attributable to the following causes.—In 1870-71 an adjustment was made for stores supplied to Port Blair in 1869-70, and for a credit given to the Military department, Bengal, for Commissariat elephants purchased, and erroneously charged in previous years against that department. The increase in the Public Works Department is owing to the new system of provincial services and local funds, whereby a credit is given to that department for the charges for roads, buildings, communications &c. now included in the civil accounts. Under India and other Governments, the decrease is due to fewer remittances transactions.

252. The opening *Cash Balances* of the last two years showed an increase in 1871-72 of £1,872. These balances were higher than in former years, owing chiefly to the available balance at Akyab treasury not having been drawn away to Calcutta by the Comptroller General :—

	1870-71.	1871-72.
	£	£
Notes ...	25,859	38,373
Gold ...	2	12
Silver ...	338,346	328,049
Copper ...	13,051	12,697
Total ...	<u>£377,258</u>	<u>£379,130</u>

#### DISBURSEMENTS, IMPERIAL.

253. The charges of collection and the amount of refunds under the head of *Land Revenue* aggregated in the year of report £98,082 against £95,530 in the previous year. The increase is due to a larger amount of revenue having been collected during 1871-72 whereby an augmentation took place in the amount of commission disbursed. The Revenue settlement charges however were smaller, owing to the field operations being limited, and there was no Revenue survey party in Akyab on duty as in the previous year.

Disbursements, Land Revenue.

254. In the year under report the expenditure on account of the *Forest* department amounted to £37,921 or £2,164 less than the disbursements in the previous year. The decrease is principally under timber expenses and stock, owing to contractors having received payments in the previous year on account of the present year, and no elephants were purchased in 1871-72.

Forests.

255. The charges under the head of *Excise* in 1871-72 were £1,909 against £10,774 in 1870-71, this decrease is due to the fact that under the orders of the Government of India, no charge for the cost of opium supplied in 1871-72 from Bengal was made.

Excise.



Various accounts.

256. The cost of establishments employed in the collection of *Income tax, Customs duty and Salt duty* in the year of report, was £260, £18,576 and £157 respectively, whilst the cost in the preceding year was £342, £16,086 and £478 respectively. The refunds under these heads aggregated in 1871-72 £3,380, and in 1870-71 £1,334. Under the heads *Stamps, Law and Justice, and Miscellaneous*, the refunds during the two years were £3,179 and £2,958 respectively, and the charges on stamps, £1,321 and £1,232.

Interest.

257. In the year under report, *Interest* on the deposits in the District Savings banks was paid, which amounted to £29.

Civil and Political Establishments.

258. The disbursements on account of *Civil and Political establishments* amounted in 1871-72 to £44,766 and in 1870-71 to £44,925. Under the Political Department there is a decrease of £1,660, principally from the amount sanctioned in 1870-71 for the payment of the debts of Jewan Bukht, a State prisoner in Rangoon and the son of the late ex-King of Delhi, and from establishments being less. In *Civil contingencies* there was an increase of £1,501, chiefly in the Civil Secretariat charges.

Law and Justice.

259. The expenditure on *Law and Justice* aggregated in the year of review £56,686 and in the previous year £56,222. The increase of £464 is mainly due to the re-organization of the Judicial administration of the Province, and the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner.

Marine.

260. In the *Marine* disbursements there was a decrease of £2,840; this was occasioned as follows:—An expenditure was incurred during a portion of the year 1870-71 for the hire of the *Cowri Hoy* and *Undaunted* steamers, whilst the *Nemesis* was undergoing repairs. Heavy expenses were incurred also in that year for coals and stores. A reduction in the number of European Light-house keepers took place in the year under report. There was however, a large increase in subsidies to steam boat companies,

occasioned in 1871-72 by the new contract with the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company for the conveyance of mails between Rangoon, Mandalay and Bhamo.

261. An increase of £350 took place in *Separate pensions and other pensions*, owing to an increased number of officials having retired.

262. The payments on account of the *Ecclesiastical* department showed a decrease of £90, the amount for the year under review having been £4,093, and for the preceding year £4,183, due to the entertainment of junior chaplains in lieu of senior chaplains, who were absent on furlough.

263. In the *Medical* establishment the expenditure for the year 1871-72 was £6,644 against £6,622 in 1870-71.

264. In *Miscellaneous* disbursements there was a decrease of £392 owing to a less sum being required for freight on stores from Europe.

#### PROVINCIAL.

265. The expenditure on account of the *Jails* ran throughout the Province in the year of review was £26,670 against £28,465 in the previous year. The decrease of £1,695 was due principally to more favorable contracts entered into for rations; to fewer transfers of prisoners; and to the fact that the inmates in the jails have been transferred to the Lunatic Asylum, Rangoon, opened in June 1871.

266. The cost of the *Registration* establishment during 1871-72, the first year of the introduction of the Act into this Province, amounted to £692.

267. The expenditure in the *Police* department also showed an increase of £2,718, the disbursements in 1871-72 having been £137,299, and in the previous year £134,581. This increase was owing to the entertainment of the additional force required for the Hill Tracts of Arakan and Chin the Chin District.



Educational.

268. The *Educational* charges in 1871-72 amounted to £8,349, and in 1870-71 to £7,367, an increase of £982, which is attributed to the opening of the schools at Mergui and Shwe-gyen, at the close of the preceding year.

Medical.

269. In the *Medical* department the expenditure for the year under report was £8,471, and for 1870-71 £7,906, being an increase of £565. In 1871-72 the Rangoon Lunatic Asylum was opened, the cost of which for the year was £780, and there was an increase in the allowance to the Officiating Sanitary Commissioner on being relieved of one of his appointments. A decrease occurred however in the hospital establishment and contingencies—and in the subordinate Medical establishments.

Printing.

270. The expenditure for *Printing* establishment and charges in 1871-72 amounted to £5,307 and in 1870-71 to £2,994. The large increase was attributed to the additional establishment and material necessary to keep pace with the requirements of the Province.

Roads, Miscellaneous Public Improvements, &amp;c.

271. The expenditure for *Roads, Miscellaneous public improvements, Civil buildings, and Petty Constructions and Repairs*, amounted in the year under report to £106,241, and in 1870-71 to £110,240, or a decrease in 1871-72 of £3,999.

## LOCAL FUNDS.

Local Funds.

272. *Local Funds*.—Under this head there were increased payments to the extent of £31,789, caused by the large expenditure by Civil and Public Works officers on roads, wharves, and other works of public utility in the principal towns of the Province.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The following is a statement of the gross revenues and disbursements within the Province during the last two years of

273. The following statement shows the disbursements within the Province during the last two years of

various accounts other than the Civil Administration :—

Heads of Accounts.	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Postal Department .. ..	9,305	9,549	..	244
Electric Telegraph &c. ..	20,371	21,180	809	..
Money Order .. ..	5,541	6,579	1,038	..
Public Works .. ..	196,908	234,670	37,762	..
Military .. ..	296,131	279,254	..	16,877
India and other Governments ..	464,294	477,363	..	7,441
Bills of .. ..	21,425	4,983	..	16,442

The increase shown in the Public Works Department is owing to the new system of Provincial Services and Local Funds.

274. The closing Cash Balances of the year under review shew a decrease of £52,088 as compared with the previous year, owing to larger expenditure in the Province, principally in the Public Works Department for Imperial and Local outlay :—

Details.	1870-71.	1871-72.
	£	£
Notes .. ..	28,373	28,290
Gold .. ..	12	..
Silver .. ..	225,940	220,400
Copper .. ..	12,097	6,317
Total £..	276,422	254,007

275. The following tabular statement shows the gross revenues and disbursements on account of Imperial and Provincial Services for the past eleven years :—

Statement of gross revenues and disbursements for the past eleven years.



## Gross Revenue, Expenditures, and Surplus of British Burma.

Details of Items.	1861-62.	1862-63.	1863-64.	1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67. (Eleven months.)	1867-68.	1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.
<b>GROSS REVENUE.</b>											
Civil Department (Imperial and Provincial) Public Works	763,304 5,552	939,477 6,984	945,414 2,634	7,079,097 6,131	968,764 2,338	892,414 10,978	1,008,708 6,631	1,304,675 12,480	1,191,866 6,268	1,304,637 6,645	1,354,378 (a) 6,857
Total	768,856	946,461	948,048	7,085,228	971,102	903,392	1,015,339	1,317,155	1,198,134	1,311,282	1,361,235
<b>GROSS CHARGES.</b>											
Civil Department (Imperial and Provincial) Public Works	283,086 114,808	332,256 160,300	378,711 145,082	305,863 244,605	414,271 156,526	385,369 196,535	467,199 267,774	494,538 204,674	316,896 165,694	497,693 165,682	486,716 (a) 100,644
Total	466,972	492,556	523,793	550,468	570,797	580,904	734,973	745,202	482,590	663,375	687,358
<b>RESULT.</b>											
Surplus in Civil Department Budget.—Net Public Works Expenditure	479,819 114,457	555,219 90,216	569,293 142,948	583,334 205,863	579,022 113,489	497,955 196,859	628,140 387,565	711,637 311,181	675,019 177,399	797,608 185,600	757,609 (a) 165,597
Net Surplus Available for Military expenditure, for contributions to the Post office, Electric Telegraph and a share of the cost of the Central Government	288,861	445,002	486,355	444,465	485,025	312,437	345,775	476,708	497,671	625,706	673,757

1. Includes 48,400 for Provincial Services.  
2. Includes expenditure £40,000 by Public Works Department for Civil Buildings, and Communications connected to Provincial Services.

276. From these figures it will be observed that during the past eleven years there has been a total *net surplus* of revenue over expenditure of £4,894,390, so that this Province has contributed during that period an annual average sum of nearly £445,000 for Military expenditure, for Post Office and Electric Telegraph charges, and for a share of the cost of the Central Government. The contribution from the Revenues of British Burma on account of these charges in 1861-62 was £865,881, whereas during the past year it amounted to £593,702, thus showing an increase of 61·6 per cent during that period.

Annual surplus to net surplus for past eleven years.

## B.—Public Works.

277. The grants for the year as originally fixed amounted to £251,591, viz:—

For Imperial works	£	72,400
„ Provincial do.	„	111,485
„ Local do.	„	67,756

Total £ ..... 251,591

278. These grants were subsequently modified and stood at the close of the year as follows, viz:—

For Imperial works	£	56,900
„ Provincial do.	„	118,126
„ Local do.	„	69,854

Total £..... 244,880

279. Against these modified grants the following expenditure was incurred:—

Expenditure.



## Imperial Outlay.

Service Heads.	Modified Grants.	Outlay.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Unspent balance of Grant.	Excess.
<i>Military.</i>	£	£	£	£
Original Works. . . . .	10,150	14,779	..	4,629
Repairs. . . . .	9,350	8,902	368	..
Total. . . . .	19,500	23,741	..	4,241
<i>Agricultural.</i>				
Original Works. . . . .	30,300	19,576	734	..
Repairs. . . . .	2,700	3,446	..	746
Total. . . . .	23,000	23,022	..	22
<i>Other Services.</i>				
Civil Buildings. { Original Works.	1,200	1,816	..	616
Repairs. . . . .	200	162	38	..
Total. . . . .	1,400	1,978	..	578
Establishment. . . . .	12,000	11,807	393	..
Tools and Plant. . . . .	1,000	406	594	..
Profit and Loss. . . . .	..	34	..	34
Increase to Stock. . . . .	..	2,250	..	2,250
Total. . . . .	15,000	14,293	..	1,707
Total. . . . .	56,900	63,034	..	6,134

## Provincial Outlay.

Service Heads.	Modified Grants.	Outlay.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Unspent balance of grant.	Excess.
	£	£	£	£
Civil Buildings. { Original Works	16,000	17,530	672	..
Repairs. . . . .	4,100	3,507	593	..
Total. . . . .	22,100	21,037	1,065	..
Communications. { Original Works	42,278	36,795	5,475	..
Repairs. . . . .	12,589	12,159	441	..
Total. . . . .	54,867	48,954	5,913	..
Miscellaneous Pub- { Original Works	21,400	15,415	5,985	..
lic Improvements. { Repairs. . . . .	950	633	317	..
Total. . . . .	22,350	16,048	6,302	..
Establishment. . . . .	16,224	15,822	..	402
Tools and Plant. . . . .	600	716	..	116
Total. . . . .	16,824	16,538	..	286
Total. . . . .	118,139	105,609	12,530	714
Less decrease in Stock. . . . .	..	1,000	1,000	..
Total. . . . .	118,139	104,609	13,530	714

## Local Outlay.

Service Heads.	Grant as per Budget Orders.	Outlay.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Unspent balance of Grant.	Excess.
	£	£	£	£
<i>Military.</i>				
Original Works. . . . .	..	100	..	..
Repairs. . . . .	400	330	..	..
Total. . . . .	400	430	..	30
<i>Other Services.</i>				
Civil Buildings. { Original Works..	5,000	4,800	..	..
Repairs. . . . .	..	..	..	..
Communications. { Original Works..	2,577	1,672	..	..
Repairs. . . . .	..	47	..	..
Mia. Pub. Improvements { Original Works..	40,743	34,136	..	..
Repairs. . . . .	4,589	4,543	..	..
Establishments. . . . .	10,000	8,601	..	..
Tools and Plant. . . . .	3,551	630	..	..
Add additional Grant. . . . .	67,356	54,337	..	..
Total. . . . .	89,453	54,327	15,126	..
Total. . . . .	89,853	54,857	15,046	..

280. The differences between grants and expenditure may be thus summarized :—

Difference between grants and expenditure.

Heads of Service.	Modified Grant.	Expenditure.	DIFFERENCE.	
			More than Grant.	Less than Grant.
	£	£	£	£
Imperial. . . . .	56,900	63,035	6,135	..
Provincial. . . . .	118,139	104,609	..	13,530
Total. . . . .	69,839	54,857	..	15,046

## IMPERIAL.

281. *Military.*—The main work on the Rangoon Pagoda Defences was done on the glacis and parapets. The North upper and lower glacis were completed, though the East and West glacis are still unfinished, the work proving more extensive than

Rangoon Pagoda defences.

\* Includes £2,356, increase to the value of Stock on 31st March 1872 over that on 1st April 1871.

† Exclusive of £1,000, decrease in the value of Stock on 31st March 1872.



originally contemplated. The parapets of five battions were raised 18 inches and those of the West curtain, retrenchment walls and redan were completed. Two ramps and some other small works were also finished. The chief work done was:—

Earthwork.....	1,300,000	cubic feet.
Brickwork.....	14,000	do.
Rubble masonry .....	12,000	do.

Outlay during the year £2,722, and up to date £32,558.

Harbour defences and Barracks.

282. Harbour defences were in abeyance, no orders regarding them having been received from the Government of India. The new barracks for European Infantry were also in abeyance for want of orders.

Completion of the Magazine.

283. With the exception of about 5,000 cubic feet the whole of the masonry of the new Ordnance Magazine is completed. The racks are in place and the wood-work is finished. Doors and windows and asphaltting the roof only remain for execution. Outlay £1,032 and to close of year £3,837.

Improvements to Commissariat Tank and Elephant sheds.

284. During the year about £400 were spent on the deepening and improving of the Commissariat tank to the North of the Pagoda Defences. The work was completed satisfactorily. On three other tanks, £630 were spent and for this amount the work was nearly completed. One of these tanks is situated in the West glacis of the Pagoda Works. Certain improvements to the roofs and floors of the Commissariat Elephant Sheds, costing £350, were carried out.

Rifle range lengthened.

285. The Rifle Range for the Native Infantry was increased in length from 300 to 600 yards and nearly completed at a cost of £260, the arming of the Native Army with rifles having necessitated the extension.

286. Six Encamping grounds with proper water-supply, were provided in the 1st section of the Promé road, the Pegu road, and the Pegu and Toungoo road, at a cost of £600; the masonry work of the wells is still incomplete. Hitherto troops have always been moved about the country by water, but these roads are in a sufficiently forward state now to admit of their transfer by land, an obvious advantage for many reasons.

Six encamping grounds provided on Promé road.

287. A sum of £550 was expended on installing, with broken stone, a portion of the West boundary road in the Cantonment, and the road from Government House leading to the Pagoda. Minor improvements were carried out in the Cantonment and for the various Departments at a cost of about £1,000.

Metalling roads.

288. At the close of the year the Military buildings in Rangoon were inspected by His Excellency Lord Mayo, accompanied by Colonel Jervois R. E., who was specially deputed to report upon the Pagoda and Harbour works. An estimate of the cost of Colonel Jervois' proposals for the improvement of the Pagoda defences is being prepared.

Military buildings inspected by Lord Mayo and Colonel Jervois.

289. On the Redoubt works at Thayetmyo nothing was done, the orders of the Government of India not having been received.

Thayetmyo Redoubt.

290. The male and female hospital for a Field Battery, on standard plan, was completed during the year, the total outlay being £6,552, of which £3,025 were spent in 1871-72. The result is a magnificent building in every respect, but the accommodation supplied seems excessive. Subsidiary buildings for servants and establishment attached to the hospital were put in hand, the outlay being £500 against a ~~estimated~~ estimate of £970. The expense magazine was completed costing in all £804, the outlay during the year being about £110.

Artillery Hospital.

291. Provision to the extent of £3,000 was made for a hospital in the European Infantry lines, but

Infantry Hospital.



Expense Maga-  
zine.

nothing was spent owing to the question of the occupation of the Redoubt not having been settled by the Government of India. An expense magazine was completed costing £453 of which £75 represents the past year's outlay. The allotment of £2,000 for a Bomb proof Magazine in the Redoubt also lapsed owing to the above cause. Minor improvements were carried out costing nearly £600.

Toungoo. Drain-  
age of European  
Barracks.

292. On improvements to the basements and drainage of the European Infantry Lines and the Lines of the Royal Artillery at Toungoo, a sum of £2,400 was spent. The total outlay is thus about £3,300, and for this amount the work is completed; the result being a vast improvement to the accommodation for the European troops. Nothing was spent on the Rifle Range, but about £100 were spent on an alternative estimate (for two new Rifle Ranges) amounting to £1,800, and which was sanctioned by the Government of India.

Artillery  
stables.

293. Work on the Pony Stables, for the Royal Artillery was suspended, the question of the occupation of the Fort not having been settled, and the same remark applies to the non-prosecution of work on the proposed new Artillery Barracks in the Fort. On re-roofing three cook-rooms in these Lines and the European Infantry Lines, a sum of £580 was expended. £400 were spent on renewing the roof of one large cook-house in the Native Infantry Lines. Minor works of improvement, to some considerable extent, were carried out at this station, at an outlay of nearly £1,200.

Miscellaneous.

Other Services.  
Telegraph Office.

294. *Other Services*.—On the collection of material for the new Telegraph office at Shwè-gyen, £100 were expended. The new Telegraph office at Promé was finished for nearly £1,000.

Government  
House.

295. A sum of £636 was expended, under the sanction of the Government of India, in decorating

the Reception Hall and providing a Banqueting room and other accommodation in the premises of Government House, on the occasion of the late Vice-roy's visit to Rangoon.

296. *Agricultural*.—Work on the provision of iron sluices in Embankment No. 6 (Henzada) was carried on to the extent of nearly £1,000. These sluices are for passing off, to the rear of the Embankment water lying against it after the subsidence of the floods.

297. The sanction of the Government of India having been received to the prosecution of work on the Leymyethna and Zaloon Embankments, they were put in hand. On the former line £12,500 were spent and on the latter £4,200. When completed they will afford protection to upwards of 150,000 acres, at a total cost of less than 4s. per acre.

298. A small cross embankment was put up within the Kyangyeen section at a cost of £200. The 2nd class Inspection Bungalow at Tham-bya-deing was, owing to the rapid encroachment of the river, removed to another site at the head of the Nga-woon at a cost of £100. On the construction of a 2nd class Bungalow at the 12th mile of the Leymyethna Embankment £200 were spent.

299. Surveys for new lines of Embankment were carried on as follows:—

Pantanaun section .....	£ 70 complete.
Nga-theing-gyoung section ..	110 "
Kyun-talee .....	700 "

A survey of the Myanounng sub-division, between Akouktoung and Loodazoo, for the purpose of ascertaining and checking the erosion of the river bank, was put in hand.

300. *Railway*.—The plans and estimate for the Rangoon and Promé Railway were returned for



revision with a view to reduction of cost, but no officer was available for this duty, previous to the close of the year under review.

### PROVINCIAL

Civil Buildings  
Ecclesiastical.

301. *Civil Buildings.*—The Church at Bassein was completed during the year, the total outlay being £580. On providing the Church at Toungoo with a substantial fence and watchman's house, £260 were spent. The sum provided for the addition of a verandah to the Cantonment Church, Rangoon, was not expended, the cost being much higher than anticipated. A railing, costing £310, was constructed around the Roman Catholic Church in the Rangoon Cantonment.

Court Houses  
and Public  
Offices.

302. Court houses for the Extra Assistant Commissioners in the Rangoon district are reported complete. So also are two Court houses in the Bassein district. At Pongday, in the Prome district, the office of the Executive Engineer was converted into a Court for the Assistant Commissioner at a cost of £260. About £4,600 were expended on the new Public offices at Akyab, bringing up the total outlay to £12,100; this building would have been completed, but for the great difficulty in procuring labour. A building in the Circuit House compound at Toungoo, was shingled and put into order at a cost of £130.

Jail buildings.

303. Four new wards for the Central Jail, Rangoon, were put in hand, one of which has been completed. The whole of the timber and tiles have been paid for; the outlay was £1,100. On the new Jail at Tavoy £1,900 were spent and the buildings are fairly advanced. One of the workshops in the Thayetmyo Jail was altered into an oil pressing shed at a small cost, and arrangements made for the conversion of a second. Some small outlay was incurred in constructing masonry drains for the Jailor's quarters, and on a cooking shed in the Jail at Bassein.

304. A little over £400 was expended on asphalt-ing the floor of the Rangoon Bonded Warehouse, and a further sum of £180 was spent on some alterations to the second floor of this building. On the School House at Akyab, about £1,600 were spent, the work being estimated to cost £1,800. The work is in progress and would have been completed during the current year but for the want of labour. On Government House, Rangoon, a sum of £1,350 was spent on the construction of an additional wing, servants' quarters, &c. &c. On the new General Hospital, Rangoon, £7,800 were spent, for which sum the wards for the males and females were nearly completed; these are handsome teak structures. The Lock Hospital at Akyab was completed for £286. Overseers' quarters at Bassein were completed at a total cost of £300. On the Lunatic Asylum, Rangoon, about £180 were expended on small improvements and alterations.

Government  
House.

General  
Hospital.

Lock Hospital.

Lunatic  
Asylum.

305. *Communications.*—For the purpose of metal-ling the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sections (118 miles) of the Rangoon and Prome roads 887,000 cubic feet of brick metalling were prepared, ready for spreading, and this quantity very nearly completes the entire quantity of ballast required for these Sections; over 17,000 cubic feet had been spread and consolidated. Out-offices and walls were finished at the Thongzai, Okkan and Thanet Chong bungalows. The outlay was a little less than £6,100, or £6,900 below the Budget grants. This short outlay was due to the orders of 1869-70, directing the suspension of spreading and consolidating the metal and the erection of the permanent bungalows, pending definite orders regarding the Railway scheme, and also to the great sickness prevailing among the coolies. Nearly 250,000 cubic feet of earthwork have been executed in raising low portions of the 2nd Section at a cost of £260.

Rangoon and  
Prome road.

306. Owing to the full quantity of timber required, not being made available by the Forest department, work on the bridging of the 2nd, 3rd and

bridging.



4th Sections, was somewhat delayed, the outlay being £10,000 against a grant of £14,000. The short outlay was, however, fully covered by the value of timber outstanding in favour of the Forest department. The following work was done :—

23	3 feet culverts of laterite masonry with brick arches.		
1	6 feet timber bridge.		
57	10	"	"
8	15	"	"
13	20	"	"
4	30	"	"
1	40	"	"

Thongzai bridge.

307. In addition to these bridges, the large bridge on the Thongzai stream (5 spans of 40 feet and 3 spans of 20 feet with platform 270 feet long) was nearly finished, together with the bridge over the Seyn or Mokha Creek (1 span of 40 feet and 3 spans of 20 feet) and that over the Mimbo creek (3 spans of 20 feet.) The whole of the bridges have been well constructed, the fitting of joints and other carpentry work being of first class quality.

Wetpouk iron bridge completed.

308. On that portion of the 4th section lying within the Prome division, £600 were spent on the bridges and culverts which are reported as very nearly complete. The Wetpouk iron bridge, of 40 feet span, reported as "practically complete" in 1870-71, was finished at a total cost of £3,500.

Prome and Munday road.

309. The re-alignment of the Prome and Munday road was finished, with the exception of the metalling, at a cost of £6,500. Plans for two large bridges across the Boolay and Naweng streams were prepared by the Executive Engineer, but they did not come under consideration during the year.

Survey of Thayetmyo and Toungoo road.

310. A survey of the proposed Thayetmyo and Toungoo road was made, but not quite completed.

Rangoon and Pegu road.

311. The outlay on the Rangoon and Pegu road during the year was £3,850, the total outlay

from the commencement, including bridging, being £39,000. For this sum a road 34 miles in length has been constructed with raised embankments, metalling and the needful bridges and culverts, giving a rate of £1,150 per mile of 1st class road, which agrees very fairly with former experience and may be accepted as the normal rate for such work in this Province. The large bridge over the Pegu river, which forms the termination of the road, is now approaching completion on a total outlay to date of nearly £3,000.

312. The Pegu and Toungoo road is in continuation of the Rangoon and Pegu line. At present, work is limited to the 1st section, about 30 miles in length. The earthwork, with one or two breaks, is completed up to Pyagye. The embankments are high and long and consequently expensive. Temporary timber bridges have been erected where most required. A portion of the jungle was also cleared. The outlay, during the year, was £4,800, so that up to its close £5,800 have been expended on the line. The survey for the 2nd and remaining sections was carried on and nearly completed by the Assistant Engineer of the Toungoo division, who deserves credit for the way in which he executed his work which lay, almost entirely, through dense jungle, exceedingly sparsely inhabited.

Moulmein and Yeh road.

313. The bridging of the 1st section of the Moulmein and Yeh road was continued during the year. Eighteen bridges were completed and eleven were in progress. The outlay was £3,000. The bridging of the 2nd section was completed, the outlay being £900. The large bridges at Quanleh and first tidal creek were finished, the screw piles for the latter being screwed down with great difficulty.

314. In the report for 1870-71, the progress on the Moulmein and Hline Bway road was stated to have been very unsatisfactory. Progress during the year under review has not been less so. Coolies

Moulmein and Hline Bway.



have been scarce in the district during the dry weather, and the price paid by the owners of rice and timber mills, has been very high. About 1,125,000 cubic feet of earthwork were executed and, to complete the road, 1,400,000 cubic feet remain to be done. The outlay was £600.

Bridge over the  
Tawa Creek.

315. The whole of the timber required for the Tawa Creek bridge in the Tavoy district was brought to site at a cost of nearly £600, but no contractor has, as yet, been found to undertake its erection.

Martaban and  
Thatone road.

316. The survey of the Martaban and Thatone road was carried out and completed at a cost of £300. This line will form the 1st section of the proposed trunk road running from Martaban to Toungoo on the Eastern side of the Sittang valley *via* Shwegyen.

Toungoo and  
Tantabeen road.

317. On the Toungoo and Tantabeen road the Kah-boung bridge was satisfactorily finished.

Metalling the  
crest of embank-  
ment.

318. The crest of the Anouk-pet section of the Henzada embankment was reduced in height, widened from 5 feet to 14 feet and partly metalled. The crest of the Henzada marginal embankment was similarly widened. The outlay was somewhat over £600.

Oyster Reef  
Light-house.

319. *Miscellaneous.*—The Oyster Reef Light-house off Akyab was commenced; the outlay during the year was, £12,800, of which £7,500 were expended on the purchase of a steamer, £1,500 on her working charges for four months, £650 on purchase and hire of lighters and boats, and £550 for cost of an iron pontoon raft, lost in preliminary operations 3 years ago, leaving £2,600 as payments to contractor and cost of freight and landing charges. The structure was designed by Colonel A. Fraser, 1st Chief Engineer, and forms a portion of his scheme for lighting up the coasts of this Province. The work, which is entirely of iron, was taken on contract by Mr. George Wells of London. On the 1st December 1871, the Officiating Chief Engineer, (Colonel Oliphant), visited the

Oyster Reef and fixed the site in 4 fathoms at low water, spring tides. The contractor's staff commenced operations at the Reef on the 16th December, by the construction of a platform of heavy timber above high water mark, from which to screw the permanent structure. This staging was composed of timber piles, eighteen in number, fixed into heavy iron shoes and dropped into position from the side of the steamer. The piles were braced together with angle iron and connected at top by heavy cap pieces and cross walings. This preliminary work was not completed until near the close of January 1872.

320. During February and March, thirteen piles of the iron structure were screwed about 9ft. 6in. into very firm sand and sandstone, or about 2ft. 6in. less than the specified depth; but it was found impossible, even with very heavy loading and exceptional power applied, to get some of the screws any further down, and the depth of these necessarily regulated that of the remainder. These piles were braced together at their heads with heavy rod iron. Unfortunately the contractor's agent, at the close of the season's work, contrary to the advice of the Chief Engineer, decided to leave the wooden staging in position during the S. W. Monsoon, and the consequence has been that the whole of it has been entirely swept away, the iron piles also of the permanent structure having been battered over to an angle of 30° from the perpendicular, and the work must be entirely recommenced next season.

Thirteen piles  
screwed down  
but the whole  
structure was  
swept away by  
the S. W. mon-  
soon.

321. Two large corrugated iron warehouses were constructed for the Custom House Wharf, Rangoon, at an outlay of £1,500. Two groynes costing £800 were thrown out in the Sittang river, to protect the site of the Civil station at Toungoo.

Miscellaneous.

#### LOCAL.

322. *Military.*—New latrines in the Suddur Bazar, Rangoon, were completed, and the Cantonment roads kept in order. Outlay £480.

Military.



Communica-  
tions.

323. *Communications.*—The road from Akyab to Moungyne was metalled with broken stone at a cost of £844. £163 were expended in metalling the Strand road at Henzada. The formation of a road between the steamer ghaut and the town of Thayetmyo was commenced, outlay £105. The road towards the frontier, from Toungoo, was continued as a district road by the Deputy Commissioner, who expended £515 in earthwork formation and the construction of wooden bridges. The road between Thatone and Zimethway was metalled at a cost of £472.

Akyab.

324. *Miscellaneous.*—A commencement was made on the construction of proper side drains for the town of Akyab and the outlay incurred was £353, but the work had to be stopped for want of funds. A sum of £520 was expended in metalling and repairing streets and minor improvements.

Bassein district.  
Bazaars.

325. Three fish and meat bazaars were completed for £600 during the year in the Bassein district. A large bazaar at Pantanau was half completed, the outlay being £2,142, and another was three parts finished at Leymyethna, the outlay being £741. A second bazaar in the Talaing-kyoung quarter of the town of Bassein was commenced, on which £800 were expended. Two bridges were constructed for £270, and the prolongation of the Strand road was put in hand, the earthwork being completed for £356. In addition to the foregoing, some of the streets were raised and metalled, and minor works of improvement carried out at a cost of £1,023.

Bridges.

Myanong dis-  
trict. Bazaars.

326. On the new bazaar commenced in 1870-71 in the town of Henzada, £2,715 were spent; the building was rather more than one-third completed. The improvements to the town roads were completed, the outlay being nominal. Small fish and meat bazaars at Myanong and Kyangyeen were completed, the total outlay being under £300.

Prome district.  
Bazaar.

327. On the new bazaar in the town of Prome £2,430 were spent, the outlay up to date being

£4,180, for which the building is rather more than half finished. Slaughter sheds in the town and at Shwè-doung were put in hand; the outlay was nearly £400. Some culverts and a conservancy building were constructed in the town at a cost of £380.

328. The bazaar at Allannmyo was more than half completed, the total outlay to date being £3,100, of which £873 was expended during the year. A road from the old town to this bazaar was partially made at a cost of £125 and a small expenditure was incurred in laying out the streets of the new town.

329. Quarters were constructed for the Lascars of the Rangoon Master Attendant's establishment at a cost of £232. On the side drains in the town of Rangoon, £2,567 were spent and the work was then suspended owing to want of funds. About £1,300 were spent on improving and metalling streets. On the excavation of the Canal, west of Godwin's Road, there was an outlay of £620, the work having been done by convicts. Protective works on the river bank at Kemendine cost about £370, but they were suspended, owing to want of funds, before any useful effect could be derived from them. A good commencement had been made on the Quay wall, in connection with the proposed Soolay Pagoda street wharf, but unfortunately, an entire subsidence of the river bank led to the slipping forward of the wall into the river. The late Viceroy, Lord Mayo, was present in Rangoon when the accident occurred, and His Excellency was pleased to state that he considered it as quite unavoidable and in no way due to want of judgment or skill on the part of the officers concerned. The outlay incurred was £9,770 about half of which will be saved by the recovery of the materials. On minor works and improvements and maintenance of streets and jetties about £3,700 were expended. The bazaar at Pegu was completed at a total outlay of £1,510 and a sum of about £200 was expended upon drains in the town.



Toungoo dist.  
Sittoung.

330. A groyne was constructed in the Sittoung river for the protection of the bank in the vicinity of the town of Toungoo, at a cost of nearly £400. Renewals of the South-east and South-west wings of the bazaar were carried out in a satisfactory manner for a sum of £2,170.

## GENERAL REMARKS.

Expenditure of  
excess outlay  
modified over  
the grant for  
Imperial works.

331. Owing to the withdrawal, from the original Imperial Budget grant, of a sum of £15,500, late in the year, there was an excess outlay over the modified grant of £6,135. This is accounted for partly by the fact of an increase to stock consequent on the manufacture of bricks for the Thayetmyo Redoubt, and partly by expenditure on other Military works which could not be stopped; the necessary preparations for the reception of the late Viceroy also entailed an extra charge on Imperial account of nearly £650. The Agricultural grant was almost exactly worked up to and this the Chief Commissioner considers is very creditable to the officers concerned.

Agricultural  
grant almost  
worked up to.Causes of the  
Provincial grant  
not having fully  
expended.

332. The unspent balance of the modified grants on account of Provincial outlay at the close of the year, amounted to £13,585, the main lapses being on Communications £5,916 and Miscellaneous Public Improvements £6,249. The short outlay on Communications is however fully covered by an amount due to the Forest department at the close of the year of about £6,000 for timber, used upon bridge construction. This can hardly therefore be considered a lapse of funds, as the debit will have to be met in 1872-73.

Oyster reef  
light-house.

333. In the same manner, the amount of the apparent short outlay on Light-houses may be regarded as forestalled to meet requirements properly anticipated. By the contract entered into for the construction of the Oyster Reef Light-house, it was stipulated that a sum of £6,500 should be payable in England by the Secretary of State for India, in July or August 1871, on certificate of the materials for the Light-house having been duly shipped for their destination.

In the absence therefore of any intimation to the contrary, from either the Government of India or the Secretary of State, it was absolutely necessary to make provision for meeting the above charge; and allowing for freight charges and payments in India, the calculation for allotments was run as close as it well could be. An additional £11,000, however, was absolutely required for the purchase and working of a steamer and lighters for four months, the necessity for which was not known to this Department until the Contract bond was received in October 1871, and for which no provision had consequently been made in the Budget originally. The actual expenditure on steamer and lighter charges was, as previously shewn, £9,650 so that the amount of the extra grant applied for, was in no way excessive.

334. The short expenditure under the head Local outlay is entirely due to stoppage of works by the orders of the Chief Commissioner and was unavoidable, consequent upon the assets of various local funds having fallen below what was anticipated, and to the provision made for adjustment of Home charges against the China Buckeer and Eastern Grove Light-houses not having been utilized.

Reasons for the  
Local Fund  
grant not being  
fully expended.

335. The outlay on establishments on Imperial account amounted to £11,607, or a charge on the work executed of 22·6 per cent—the per centage of the total expenditure was 18·4. The charge on Provincial account gives a per centage on the work executed of very nearly 22·0, and on total outlay of 18·0. Against Local funds under this head, a sum of £8,501 was debited, giving a charge on works of about 18·4 per cent and on total expenditure of 15·3. The above charges are much below those of the preceding year, which amounted generally to 29·7 per cent on cost of works, and 22·3 per cent of the total expenditure. This reduction is very satisfactory, but the Chief Commissioner considers that they are still somewhat high.

Charges for  
establishment  
less than in  
previous years.



## Forests.

Demarcation of State forests.

336. During the year under review the demarcation of 3,519 acres was sanctioned in the Toungoo district, thereby making up the total area sanctioned for State Forests to 85,538 acres or 124 square miles.

Statement of area demarcated.

337. The boundaries of the following tracts have been finally demarcated

PROME DIVISION.					Area.
Shwekyoon Dau.	...	...	...	...	238
THARRAWADDY OR MYANOUNG DIVISION.					
Toungnyo Hill.	...	...	...	...	3,500
Mokka.	...	...	...	...	7,200
Beeling.	...	...	...	...	6,800
SALWEEN DIVISION.					
Tsinzway.	...	...	...	...	8,960
Moochuang.	...	...	...	...	2,300
Wahmoo choung.	...	...	...	...	1,760
Total					30,758

State reserved forests.

338. The total area set apart throughout the Province as State Reserved Forests thus amounts to 79,739 acres or 124 square miles. Although this is not a very large area, much of it having been selected as far back as 1865—it is satisfactory to notice that proposals for reserving areas in the Prone division, approximating 400 square miles in extent, are about to be submitted for final orders.

Survey of catch forests for rubber.

339. Consequent upon the rapid exhaustion of the catch-producing tracts, and the reproduction of this valuable staple being materially affected by the absence of protective measures, the topographical survey and examination of catch-producing localities was commenced both in the Prone and Thar-

ray districts, and also in the northern part of the Tharrawaddy division, in conjunction with the selection of tracts abounding in teak and other valuable woods. It seems advisable that regular carefully selected tracts should be reserved, planted with catch, and worked in a systematic manner, and that no interference should be exercised in respect to catch trees outside the reserves.

340. The examination of tracts for fuel blocks has been deferred until the boundaries of the existing proposed reserves in the Tharrawaddy and Rangoon divisions shall have been rectified according to the ruling of the Local Government that these must be distant  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from villages and cultivated lands.

Examination of tracts for fuel blocks.

341. Girdling was carried on in the five Forests divisions this season:—

Girdling operations.

				Trees.
RANGOON	...	Thongzai	...	1,990
THARRAWADDY	...	{ Gamoong	...	2,008
		{ Bawben	...	1,017
PRONE	...	North Nawing	...	1,000
SITTANG	..	{ Koon and Zaka	...	3,288
		{ Einton	...	745
SALWEEN	..	{ Doondamee	...	2,000
		{ Thoungyeen	...	2,000
Total				14,048

342. The cultivation of teak in plantations has been confined to the Rangoon division, and the work has been transferred from Kyekphyoogan to the banks of the Magayee river, about 57 miles by the Prone road from Rangoon. The permanent plantations now cover 1,882 acres, the gross cost of which has been Rs. 1,08,870, or Rs. 50.7 per acre. The expenditure is higher than what was anticipated, owing to the unsatisfactory results of experimental cultivation of crops with teak. It is expected, by undertaking only cotton cultivation, that the expenditure for the first five years will be limited to £6 to £6 10s. per acre.

Teak plantations.



Cinchona plantations

343. *Cinchona*.—In the Thantoungyee plantation which now contains 354 plants fairly established, the work of propagation was attended with considerable success, but it appears that more might have been done by propagating by cuttings, especially in the upper sites. In the Plumadoc plantation 118 of the original trees are in existence, from 4 to 13 feet in height, and 122 plants raised from cuttings.

Out-turn of timber from Forests within British territory.

344. The out-turn of timber from Forests within British territory, viz: 54,526 tons, has been somewhat higher than would have been the case had not irregularities occurred in the working of the Sittang Forests.

Detail of out-turn by Government Agency.

345. There were brought out by Government agency, 22,334 logs and sleepers, measuring 21,465·9 tons :—

Tha-tawaddy and Rangoon.	Logs	...	...	15,978
	Sleepers	...	...	229
Obtained from the sea-shore, drift and miscellaneous sources.		...	...	5,427

Total 22,334

Out-turn by Permit-holders.

346. There were brought out by Permit-holders, 33,870 logs, measuring 30,660·6 tons :—

Prome, East and West	...	...	...	9,143
Rangoon	...	...	...	497
Sittang	...	...	...	17,013
Salween	...	...	...	6,818

Total 33,870

Increase in revenue by assessing timber on the running foot principle.

347. The new system introduced of assessing timber on the running foot principle has yielded an increase of £1,300 in excess of the Revenue which would have been obtained under the old system.

Increase in timber imported by the Salween

348. Owing to a more favourable state of things in Zimmay, and the evident inclination of the Karennee Chiefs to co-operate in protecting traders,

the importation of tank timber by the Salween has increased by 14,028 tons over last year, and 30,621 tons over the year before.

349. The importation by the various rivers, open to timber traffic, was as follows :—

Detail of the importation of Foreign timber.

	Logs.	Pine.
SITTANG	14,220	118
IRRAWADDY	2,011	1,531
SALWEEN	88,437	...
Total	106,667	1,749

350 The following is a comparative statement of the out-turn of timber during the last five years :—

Statement of the out-turn of timber during the past five years.

	Tons.		Total
	British.	Foreign.	
1867-68	33,104	88,018	121,122
1868-69	52,259	76,903	129,161
1869-70	39,343	52,157	92,000
1870-71	57,068	82,484	139,552
1871-72	54,125	98,400	152,525

351. The following Revenue has been obtained during the year :—

Banda	Kadon			Permits to British Burma.			Total.		
	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
I. Sale of timber at Depôts	..	..	..	20,261	..	..	20,261	..	..
II. Sale of timber removed by purchasers	..	..	..	24,417	..	..	24,417	..	..
III. Duty on Foreign timber	16,467	..	..	..	..	..	16,467	..	..
IV. Permit Fees	..	..	..	3,075	..	..	3,075	..	..
V. Sale of consolidated drift and waste timber	..	..	..	2,104	..	..	2,104	..	..
VIII. Fines and Penalties	..	..	..	40	..	..	40	..	..
IX. Miscellaneous Receipts	..	..	..	1,804	..	..	1,804	..	..
Total Receipts	16,467	..	..	60,770	..	..	77,237	..	..

352. The Charges were as follows :—

Forests in British Burma	...	...	£35,963
Kadon or cost of collection of duty on Foreign timber	...	...	1,958
Total	...	...	£37,921



Not revenue.

353. The surplus or net Revenue in favor of the department was :—

Forest in British Burma	...	£24,816
Kadoe or duty on Foreign timber	...	14,819
Total	...	<u>£39,635</u>

or £5,520 in excess of the Budget Estimate.

Gross revenues during the past five years.

354. The gross Revenues for five years,—1867-68 to 1871-72 were as follows :—

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
	£	£	£
1867-68	46,183	18,575	64,758
1868-69	60,320	31,400	91,720
1869-70	84,632	13,664	98,296
1870-71	66,815	14,898	81,713
1871-72	60,772	16,467	77,239

Net receipts during the past five years.

355. The net Receipts during the five years were :—

1867-68	...	...	...	£31,920
1868-69	...	...	...	33,478
1869-70	...	...	...	35,639
1870-71	...	...	...	41,797
1871-72	...	...	...	29,320

356. These figures show a falling off of about half a lakh in the gross, and a quarter of a lakh in the net Revenue compared with those of 1870-71 ;—the result of lower receipts, although partly attributable to increased expenditure under establishment.

357. To the net Revenue should be added £16,655—value of outstandings, whereby a total is arrived at of £55,975 or £3,073 less than the total for 1870-71 :—

Value of outstandings added to net revenue.

Value of timber sold by Public auction and timber supplied to the Public Works Department but not yet paid for.	...	£6,370
Permit Revenue due on timber worked out	...	4,384
Difference of value of stock of 1871-72, as compared with 1870-71.	...	5,811
Total	...	<u>£16,565</u>

## D.—Agriculture.

358. Rice is the staple product of the Province <sup>Rice.</sup> and there were during the past year 1,836,021 acres under rice cultivation against 1,733,815 acres in 1870-71, thus shewing an increase in favour of the year under report of 102,206 acres : it appears from the returns that this increase in the area of land under rice cultivation was general throughout the Province and was not confined to any particular district.

359. The returns for the past year shew 4,360 <sup>Other food grains.</sup> acres of land as under cultivation with food grains other than rice, while in the year 1870-71, 1,884 acres only were returned under this head ; the increase appears to have taken place entirely in the Myanounge district, but this is probably due to the fact that in the returns of other districts, land so cultivated has been shewn under different headings.

360. There were 25,502 acres under <sup>Sessamum.</sup> cultivation during the year 1871-72, against 20,944 acres in the previous year ; it was noticed last year that the cultivation of oil-seed had increased considerably in consequence of the large demand for it for exportation to Europe. Sessamum is chiefly cultivated in the Myanounge and Thayet districts ; it is grown generally on the high land, which is unsuited to the cultivation of rice and the crop is usually very remunerative to the cultivator.

361. There is a small decrease in the area of <sup>Sugar.</sup> land under sugar cultivation, the figures for the two years being 3,179 and 3,586 acres respectively ; the cultivation of the sugarcane is carried on chiefly in the gardens around the cultivators' houses. Sugarcane is usually consumed in the raw state, and it is seldom that any sugar is extracted from it, that generally used by the people is a coarse kind of molasses extracted from the palm tree. The area of <sup>Cotton.</sup> cotton cultivation has increased from 7,999 acres in 1870-71, to 14,126 acres during the past year.



Cotton is principally grown in the "Toungya" or hill clearings, the areas of which are only given approximately as they are not measured; it is therefore improbable that there has been actually so large an increase as 6,000 acres in the cultivation of cotton during the year; but still as the export of cotton is increasing, the area of land so cultivated must be increasing in proportion. The fibre of the indigenous cotton is short but strong, and it adheres with great tenacity to the seed. There were no experiments made during the year with any foreign cotton. The area of land under indigo cultivation and fibres has slightly increased during the past year.

362. The area of tobacco cultivation has increased from 11,536 acres to 12,866 acres during the past year; this plant is produced altogether for home consumption and is grown on sandbanks or in the dry beds of streams, and is generally of a very inferior kind. As the people consume this plant in great quantities, it is much to be regretted that they do not cultivate it more extensively. Tobacco is imported into the Province in considerable quantities from the eastern ports of India.

363. The area of land under cultivation shows in the returns under the headings of "Products of Toungya cultivation," mixed fruit trees, "and all others" amounted to 160,681 acres against 222,166 acres during 1870-71, and 124,688 acres in 1869-70. These figures show that there was a decrease in the area of cultivation under these heads during the year, but the remarkable increase in 1870-71 is no doubt due to inaccuracy in the returns, and when compared with the figures for the year 1869-70, the area of land so cultivated during the past year shows an increase of about 36,000 acres. The "Toungya" or "Joom" cultivation is discouraged as much as possible, as it is very wasteful and destructive; but it cannot be altogether prohibited as it is the only means of support which many of the population possess. Hemp was cultivated

over a small area in the Akyab district, but the cultivation has not increased during the year. This valuable fibre might be largely cultivated in this Province, but the want of labour alone, no doubt, prevents many from attempting it.

364. The doorian and mangosteen are cultivated in the Tenasserim division, but chiefly in the southern districts of Tavoy and Mergui. It is said that these fruits are only found in the Malacca Peninsula. The mangosteen is a delicate flavoured fruit, while the doorian has a very strong flavour and a most fetid smell; the doorian is much liked by the Burmese who will pay high prices for it, and it is annually sent up to Mandalay in large quantities to the King of Burma.

365. The number of cows and bullocks have increased from 521,424 to 529,654, the increase has been general throughout every district; there was no murrain or cattle disease during the year. The importation of cattle from Upper Burma is strictly forbidden; but the order is not always strictly enforced. There is again a small decrease in the number of horses and ponies, which is immaterial; the number of sheep and goats have increased from 14,819 to 15,081; while the number of pigs has decreased from 89,017 to 83,458.

366. The returns shew the number of carts at 144,036 against 140,368 during the previous year. The number of ploughs during the two years were respectively 235,207 and 241,264. The number of buffaloes have increased from 469,689 to 551,566, or by 80,000 animals. This large increase in the number of buffaloes indicates very clearly the prosperous condition of the agricultural population.

367. The average rent per acre for rice land varies from 1 shilling to 10 shillings; while the high land, on which other grains can be cultivated, fetches generally from 3 shillings to 4 shillings per acre. The average produce of rice per acre is 1,563 lbs., in

Doorian and Mangosteen.

Number of Cows and Bullocks.

Horses, Ponies, Sheep and Goats.

Carts and Ploughs.

Buffaloes.

Average rent of land per acre.

Indigo and Fibre.

Tobacco.

Toungya cultivation, mixed fruit trees and others.



some districts, however, the average yield is 2,500 lbs., while in others it is only 900 lbs.

*E.—Prices of produce and labour.*

Price of rice.

368. The price of rice varied during the year from 2s. 6d. per maund of 80 lbs. in the Sandoway district to 4s. 9d. in the Rangoon district. The average price during the year throughout the whole Province was about 4s. against 4s. 3d. in the previous year.

Price of cotton.

Price of salt.

Tobacco.

369. The price of indigenous cotton also varied in the several districts of the Province very considerably; its average price was about 12s. Salt has varied in price from 1s. 2d. in Tavoy and Ramree, to 6s. 3d. in Mergui for a maund of 80 lbs. The price of tobacco per maund of 80 lbs. also varies very considerably, being £5 in the Ramree district, and about 14s. in the Prome district.

Bullocks and buffaloes.

370. The average price of a buffalo is £6 5s. 6d. and that of a plough bullock is £5 2s. Buffaloes however, are generally used for ploughing in this Province.

Price of labour.

371. The price of skilled labour varies from 4s. and 6d. per diem to 4s., while unskilled labor commands from 6d. to 1s. a day. But at the principal seaport towns as much as 2s. a day is paid in the shipping season for cooly or unskilled labour.

*F.— Mines and Quarries.*

Locality of the principal tin mines.

372. The only mines in the Province are those worked for tin in the southern portion of the Tenasserim division. This mineral exists over a large extent of country in the Mergui and Tavoy districts, and is obtained by removing and washing the pebble and boulder deposits of the river beds. It is a bin-oxide of the metal in the condition of black sand, and is the cassiterite of mineralogists; as its

chemical name implies it consists when free from all other minerals or earthy impurities, of one atomic weight of metallic tin, and two of oxygen.

373. Samples of the tin-stone once washed produce about 70 per cent of metal, and twice washed 75 per cent. It is therefore very pure, and the metal produced is of excellent quality, and almost free from alloy. Hitherto these deposits have been worked by Chinese and natives of the country, in a very rough and unscientific manner, and the tin-stone is smelted in a most primitive way, so that the produce realized is only 68 per cent of metal. The attention of European capitalists is now being given to these mines, and arrangements are being made to lease out certain tracts.

Produce of metal from the stone.

374. Coal exists on the banks of the Tenasserim river, and in other parts of the Province; but it has never been worked to any extent.

375. Lead has been found in Toungoo and on Maingay's Island in the Mergui Archipelago, but nothing has been done towards utilising it; a superficial exploration was made during the year. This mineral exists too in the Shwe-gyen district, where gold, antimony ore, and iron-stone is also found. The quantity of the precious metal is however, very small, and the searchers for it are but badly remunerated.

376. Limestone exists in several parts of the Province, and quarries are worked pretty extensively in Thayetmyo and Bassein; the stone might be excavated profitably in Sandoway if a demand existed.

Limestone quarries.

*G.—Manufactures.*

377. The most important mills in the country are those employed in the sea-port towns for the cleaning of rice and for the sawing of timber. There are now 26 steam rice mills in the Province, against only

Steam Rice mills.



3 five years ago, and the number seems likely to still further increase with the enormous demand which now exists for cargo rice for shipment to Europe and the Straits and China. The majority of the timber mills are at Moulmein, but there are several in Rangoon also.

Timber sawing  
Mills.

Weaving.

378. Weaving is carried on throughout the Province, silk and cotton goods being manufactured in large quantities, chiefly for home use, in small hand looms. A loom usually forms part of a Burman's household furniture, and it is worked by the female members of the family. The articles generally woven are waistcloths for men, petticoats for women, and cotton quilts for use as coverlets. The cloths are rough but strong, and some of the silk goods are of considerable value.

Manufacture of  
Salt.

379. A coarse description of salt is made on the sea-coast, which is used chiefly in the preparation of *Ngapee*, a favourite article of food amongst the Burmese. This manufacture has fallen off to a considerable extent of late years however, owing to the introduction of European salt, which is sold at a much less price than that of local manufacture.

Gold and Silver  
work.

380. The gold and silver smiths of Burma are very clever in the particular kind of work which they turn out. Cups and bowls are the chief articles made, and for originality and boldness of design they are unequalled.

Lacquered ware.

381. Lacquered ware, which consists of fine cane and bamboo work covered with coloured lacquer, on which fanciful and sometimes elegant designs are traced, is manufactured to a considerable extent in the Prome and Thayet districts for domestic purposes.

Carving and gilding.

382. Carving and gilding are also carried on in the chief towns, mainly however in the decoration of religious buildings.

383. A rough description of silk which is altogether worked up in the Province, is prepared in the hilly tracts of Prome and Thayetmyo. It is a branch of industry, however, repugnant to the feelings of a Buddhist, as, according to the method followed in Burma to obtain the silk-thread the worm has to be killed, hence the trade is confined to only one class of people. Umbrellas of oiled paper, after the Chinese fashion, are also manufactured extensively.

Umbrellas.

384. In the Prome district, the substance called *Cutch* is manufactured in large quantities for exportation to Europe. *Cutch* is an extract of the *acacia catechu* or *mimosa catechu*, and is used for dyeing purposes. It is prepared in the following manner:—As soon as the trees have been felled, the whole of the exterior white wood is carefully removed, and the interior coloured portion cut into fragments. These are placed in iron cauldrons, or large earthen pots, and water added in sufficient quantity to cover them. Heat is then applied and maintained until the decoction is about half evaporated, when the pieces of wood are removed, and the boiling is continued until the substance attains a sufficient consistency. It is then spread out on leaves in a wooden frame, where it is completely dried by exposure to the air, and afterwards cut into pieces for the market.

#### Trade.

385. The trade of the Province during the year is considered to have been in a satisfactory state, and its value compared very favourably with the value in previous years.

Satisfactory  
state of trade.

386. The gross trade in sea-borne merchandize was of the value of £6,938,203 in 1871-72, and £6,173,676 in 1870-71, an increase of £764,527 of which the exports amounted to £366,779, and the imports to £397,747; in the last named year the increase in merchandize over the year immediately preceding was £413,427.

Increase in sea-  
borne mer-  
chandize.



387. In the transactions in treasure there was a considerable falling off, the exports and imports in 1871-72 having aggregated £1,519,517 against £1,624,362 in the previous year. Of this decrease £24,676 were in the exports, and £80,169 in the imports, but whilst the exports both by Government and private parties, which consist almost entirely of transactions between the Provincial ports and of over importations returned to India, exhibit a slight falling off, the Government imports increased to the extent of £87,300, and imports by private parties decreased by £167,468. The Government importations however, were merely nominal, and consisted of transfers from one treasury to another. The total diminution in the shipments of specie by private parties was £188,705, notwithstanding that there was such a large increase in the value of merchandize. This would appear to show that the cash requirements of exporters during the year of review were met to a greater extent than in former years by the realizations from imports.

388. The sea-borne trade of the Arakan division amounted in the year under report to £1,345,417 against £1,341,606 in the previous year, an increase of £3,811, which was due entirely to an enhanced export of treasure, the transactions in merchandize having fallen off to the extent of £48,135. In Pegu on the contrary, the traffic in merchandize increased greatly, the amounts being £4,815,066 in 1871-72 and £4,107,191, in 1870-71; whilst the shipments of specie, both export and import diminished to the extent of £190,170. The trade in merchandize in the Tenasserim division also showed a satisfactory improvement, having increased from £1,137,027 in 1870-71 to £1,241,815 in the year of report. The shipments of treasure in this division increased by £33,379.

389. The value of the export trade conveyed by sea was £4,236,997 in 1871-72 and £3,894,894 in 1870-71, an increase of £342,103, almost every principal article under this head having improved. Raw

cotton increased to the extent of £120,366, hides £22,272, jade stones, £6,223, rice £105,916, precious stones £12,077, timber £66,990, tobacco £7,298 and sundries £25,113. The exports from Arakan decreased in value by £60,729, whilst those from Pegu and Tenasserim increased considerably, the former by £297,374, the latter to the extent of £105,459.

390. To the Indian Ports the exports again decreased, the value in the year of report having been £796,895, of which £556,336 were merchandize and £240,559 specie; whilst in the previous year the value aggregated £858,842, £597,227 being merchandize and £261,615 treasure. The falling off in produce was general, cotton having decreased by £41,691, cutch by £4,293, rice by £12,239, sticklac by £839, timber by £14,464, and tobacco by £452.

To Foreign Ports on the contrary, there was a very large increase, the total values for the two years being £2,811,503 and £2,442,688, and the excess in favor of 1871-72 £368,815, which was almost entirely in merchandize, specie having increased by £330 only. The most extraordinary portion of this increase was in cotton, of which 100,560 maunds more were shipped than in the previous year, with an increased value of £164,321 or 129.59 per cent. In cutch there was an increase in quantity of 4,822 maunds, but a decrease in value of £1,026; hides, horns, and jade stones also increased considerably, but there was a slight falling off in ivory, petroleum, precious stones, sticklac and tobacco; whilst miscellaneous decreased by £13,566. A very large increase in the quantity of rice exported to Europe, the Straits and China took place, the shipments having been 48,027 tons in excess of those in 1870-71. In timber also there was a greatly enhanced trade with those Ports, 9,707 tons more having been exported. The inter-provincial export trade showed an improvement to the extent of £35,235, entirely in merchandize, specie having decreased by £3,950. The most important increase was in miscellaneous £27,523, tobacco £7,819, and timber £10,101; and decrease in cotton £2,263, petroleum £3,439, rice £2,809.

Decrease in value of exports to Indian ports.

Increase in value of exports to Foreign ports.

Increase in the inter-provincial export trade.



391. The maritime import trade of the year under review was of the value of £4,220,723, and of that in the year preceding £3,903,144, the increase having amounted to £317,579. The increment in the value of apparel was, £25,608, coal £13,513, gunny bags £47,289, hardware £18,743, machinery £28,324, cotton piece-goods £74,221, silk piece-goods £119,120, woollen piece-goods £12,510, salt £12,404, raw silk £13,451, and sundries £130,597; whilst the value of betelnut decreased to the extent of £42,600, and species £49,558. The goods imported into Arakan in 1871-72 exceeded in value those imported in 1870-71 by £59,727; the increased imports of merchandize into Pegu were of the value of £327,291; and of those into Tenasserim £10,819.

392. From the *Indian* ports merchandize to the value of £1,322,072, and specie amounting to £800,850, were imported in 1871-72; whilst in the previous year the value of merchandize was £1,262,230, and of treasure £884,948. An increase of £59,842, therefore, took place in merchandize, a considerable improvement having occurred in gunnies, hardware, and silk piece-goods, whilst most other articles showed a falling off, especially betelnut, twist and yarn, and cotton piece-goods; and a decrease of £84,098, in treasure. In the trade with *Foreign* ports there was a large increase, the value being £1,455,013 and £1,135,776 respectively, an increase of £319,237,—merchandize having improved to the extent of £323,611, and treasure decreased by £4,374. The principal increase in merchandize was in cotton twist and yarn £22,795, cotton piece-goods £100,432, silk piece-goods £22,986, woollen piece-goods (£15,560), raw silk £12,581, and miscellaneous £154,600. The *inter-provincial* trade increased to the extent of £22,597, of which £14,293 was the increase in merchandize, and £8,304 in treasure.

393. The following are the details respecting the principal goods exported and imported during the year.

394. The sea-borne exports of the principal product of the Province, *rice*, were in excess of those of any previous year, having aggregated 487,162 tons, of which 463,691 tons were exported to Europe, the Straits and China, and were therefore duty paying. The only year's shipments approaching to within 20,000 tons of this large export are those of 1864-65, when the total quantity was 469,618 tons, of which 437,885 tons were sent to Foreign ports and included upwards of two hundred thousand tons forwarded to China and other Eastern markets owing to a scarcity of home grown grain in those markets. For some years past the exports to Europe have been increasing, and not only within the official year under report have they exceeded the shipments in any previous official year, but since the 1st of April they have continued without intermission, especially at Rangoon and Akyab, so that the "season" has been one of unprecedented activity. During the last four months of 1871 and so far in 1872 there has also been a brisk demand for the Straits and China. It is satisfactory to observe that the demand for Moulmein rice which sprung up in 1870-71 has continued, and that an increase of about 19,000 tons over the shipments of that year took place in 1871-72. As compared with the preceding year however, there was a falling off of 39,184 tons in the export of this grain to Upper Burma, but the quantity sent beyond the frontier in the year under review was about the same as that sent in 1864-65, so that the gross exports in 1871-72 by sea and land, were still in excess of those of any previous year.

395. As much has been said from time to time in regard to the effect of the enhanced duty on the rice trade of this Province, especially with respect to the produce of Cochin China and Siam competing with the produce of British Burma, it will tend to a more easy understanding of the whole position of the rice trade of British Burma, if a brief history of the special conditions of that trade since 1867 is given.

Exports of rice by sea in excess of any previous year.

Increase in the rice trade of Moulmein.

Decrease in Exports of rice to Upper Burma.

Remarks respecting duty on rice.



Date on which  
the duty on rice  
was increased.

396. On the 20th of March 1867, Act XVII of that year, under which the duty on grain exported from India was raised from two to three annas per maund, came into force in British Burma. It was expected by many that this enhancement of duty would have had a prejudicial effect on the rice trade of this Province, which forms the staple of its commerce; that, that trade would no longer be able to compete with other countries, which were, it was supposed, anxious to become competitors with Burma in the European market; and that as a consequence the material progress of the Province would be retarded.

Shipments in  
the calendar  
year 1867.

1867,

397. In 1866, the year previous to the imposition of the increased duty, the total export of rice from the Province was 346,877 tons, of which 247,979 tons or 72 per cent were sent to Foreign—that is duty paying—ports, including 77,327 tons to the Straits and China. In 1867, the first year of the enhanced duty, the total shipments were 460,653 tons, but 170,170 tons were forwarded to Indian ports in that year, principally to Orissa, owing to the famine in that country. The shipments to Foreign ports were 290,483 tons, or 63 per cent of the total. In the following year (1868) the trade with Europe increased very considerably; during that year the total export was 344,185 tons, of which 330,108 tons or 96 per cent were sent to Foreign ports, almost exclusively to Europe, 10,634 tons only having been forwarded to the Straits, &c. Consequent on these large shipments to Europe; on the fact that large quantities of rice from Cochin China and Siam were also sent to Europe in 1868 and 1869; and on a heavy decrease having taken place in the exports from Akyab owing to the effects of a very severe cyclone which swept over that district in November 1868, and unseasonable rains in January 1869, both of which considerably damaged the crops, and were followed by a very fatal epidemic of Cholera, there was a small decrease in the exports to Foreign ports in the year 1869. The total shipments in that year were 388,829 tons, of which 80,622 were sent to Indian ports and were therefore non-dutiable. The

1868.

1869.

cargoes on which duty was levied aggregated 308,207 tons, or 79 per cent of the whole, the falling off having been entirely in the shipments to Europe. In 1870 the shipments to Europe had not recovered themselves to any great extent, but there was an improvement over the previous year. A small increase also took place in this year in the shipments to the Straits, &c. The total export for the year was 384,152 tons, or 4,677 tons less than in the previous year, Akyab not having yet quite resumed its former position. Of this total the shipments to Foreign ports were 336,411 tons or 87 per cent. In the year 1871 however, there was a great increase, the demand for both Europe and the Straits and China having considerably improved. The gross export was 470,893 tons of which 455,479 tons or 96 per cent were duty paying. This improved state of trade was followed by a still greater increase in 1872, when the total shipments were 700,784 tons of which 672,384 tons, or nearly 96 per cent were sent to Foreign ports.

398. It will be seen from the above that, whilst the exports of rice since the imposition of an enhanced duty in 1867, have increased from 346,877 tons in that year to 700,784 tons for 1872, the duty paying cargoes have increased from 247,979 tons, to 672,384 tons, or from 63 per cent to 96 per cent of the total shipments.

Great increase  
in the rice trade.

399. During 1866, 77,327 tons were shipped to the Straits, China, &c., but in 1867, 1868, 1869 and 1870, but little grain was sent from Burma to those places. Owing however to a scarcity of rice in the Eastern markets in 1871 and 1872, 85,753 tons were shipped to those markets in the former year and 73,076 tons in the 7 months of the latter year. In the same way owing to a great scarcity having prevailed in the Eastern Provinces of China, and to short crops in Siam on which the Government of that country prohibited the export of grain, during the years 1864 and 1865 a very large demand occurred in those years for rice from Burma to assist in supplying the half-starved millions of the Eastern portion of the Chinese em-

Exports of rice  
to the Straits  
and China.



pire, and it is this exceptional state of things which has tended to mislead as to the effect of the enhanced duty on the trade with the East.

Statistics of the trade from 1865 to 1872.

400. The following statement shows the rice trade of the last eight calendar years, distinguishing the duty-paying cargoes from those non-dutiable:—

Years	DUTY PAYING EXPORT OF RICE.			Non-dutiable Export of Rice.	Grand Total.
	To Europe.	To Straits, C. and Am.	Total.		
1865 .. ..	154,700	192,707	347,407	24,502	371,909
1866 .. ..	170,029	77,337	247,366	28,008	275,374
1867 .. ..	261,430	29,043	290,473	176,170	466,643
1868 .. ..	219,474	19,004	238,478	24,007	262,485
1869 .. ..	228,187	22,670	250,857	66,623	317,480
1870 .. ..	308,264	24,167	332,431	67,761	399,192
1871 .. ..	300,730	68,753	369,483	14,434	383,917
1872 .. ..	343,000	129,731	472,731	28,000	500,731

Amount of duty realized in 1867 and 1872.

401. The amount of duty realized on the Foreign shipments has increased from £148,000 in 1867 to £267,000 in 1872. The season of 1872 has been by far the best, and in July last it was stated that there were still large stocks, 25,000 to 30,000 tons in the interior which have in all probability since come to the Rangoon market; it was also expected that some 5,000 or 6,000 tons more would be shipped from Bassein; and probably 10,000 tons additional from Akyab.

Anticipations in respect to the judicial effect of enhancement of duty not fulfilled.

402. It is quite clear from this that the anticipations of those opposed to the imposition of the enhanced duty have in no way been fulfilled. It has been said that British Burma could never compete, weighted as it is, with Saigon and Bangkok, the rice of which ports is subjected to no duties. The results on the contrary shew that those ports are quite able to compete with us, and that they have been beaten altogether out of the European market as will be seen from the following statements:—

### Exports of Rice from Saigon.

Exports of rice from Saigon and Bangkok.

	1871.	1870.	1869.	1868.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
China .....	242,350	76,782	29,103	52,392
Japan .....	29,738	122,193	52,918	2,625
Europe .....	2,384	6,338	31,300	37,604
Mauritius and Bourbon .....	2,854	7,587	20,292	17,130
Singapore .....	12,816	9,913	17,496	17,082
Sundry places .....	3,504	833	520	5,930
Total .....	303,645	325,574	158,957	133,363

### Exports of Rice from Bangkok.

	1871.	1870.	1869.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
China .....	100,362	114,615	58,327
Singapore, India and Java .....	2,412	31,672	48,206
Europe and Australia .....	1,538	3,481	53,030
America .....	483	.....	1,450
Total .....	111,797	154,900	161,013

403. Indeed the rice of Cochin China and Siam would never have entered the European market had it not been that there was in 1868 a very large harvest in China, and the home supply of that country was such as to make the Foreign rice a drug in the markets. Under these circumstances, Saigon and Bangkok had no other course but to ship to Europe; this they did and were supposed to have become dangerous competitors to Burma: though after all, the quantity they shipped to Europe was very insignificant, Bangkok sending in 1869 53,000 tons, Saigon 31,260, a very small export compared with the 700,784 tons which Burma sent out this season. The experimental export from Saigon and Bangkok however was a failure; that rice did not suit the European market and fetched 1 to 2 £ per ton less than Burma rice, and as a natural consequence as soon as the rice market in China resumed its normal condition, the

Cause of the rice of Cochin China and Siam entering European markets.

Rice of less value than Burmese rice.



exports from Saigon and Bangkok to Europe ceased and the whole trade again fell into the hands of Burma.

Saigon and Bangkok natural ports of supply for China. Burmese Ports for Europe.

Ports of Saigon and Bangkok better suited as regards freight to the Chinese market.

If Siam and Cochin China could meet demands of China no rice could be required from Burma.

During 1871 and 1872 rice sent from Burma to China to supplement export from Bangkok and Saigon.

404. It must be prominently kept in view that the natural ports of supply for China are Saigon and Bangkok; the natural ports of export to Europe are the Burma ports. It is not only that the Saigon and Bangkok rice suits the Chinese markets best and always commands a higher price there than the Burma rice, but the situation of those ports is such that Burma could never compete with them if only they were in a position to supply the whole of the China demand. The difference in freight as against the ports of Burma is as 7 to 5. The Chinese Junks and small French Barques are able to carry the crop in conveniently small cargoes and at low rates. In the previous discussions which have occurred, two great mistakes were committed, first in omitting to see that a heavy demand on Burma for rice for the China markets was due to failure of the crops in China and Formosa, and short crops in Siam, which led to a prohibition of export for a time from Bangkok, and next in omitting to see that the export to Europe from Cochin China and Siam in 1868 and 1869 was an exceptional state of things resulting from over-supply in China and the necessity of sending the rice anywhere where it would fetch any price at all, rice being an article which will not bear keeping over from season to season. It may be taken as an undeniable fact that so long as the rice supply of Siam and Cochin China are not capable of meeting the wants of China, we shall be called upon to make good the deficiency; whenever they are capable of meeting this demand, no rice will go from this to the East. On the other hand so long as those ports can obtain a market in the East, they will not endeavour to compete with Burma in the European market. At present the balance is in favour of Burma; for the last two seasons we have been sending large quantities of rice to China to supplement the export of Saigon and Bangkok, while they have not in any way interfered with us in the European market.

Then another consideration which must be borne in mind with reference to the trade between this and China is this: the rice most sought after for shipment to the East is the comparatively soft-grained rice, Nga-kyouk and Mee-doung, grown in the interior, while the rice sent to Europe from Rangoon is the Nga-tsain, a hard-grained rice, grown within the influence of tidal streams. The former kinds of rice are those chiefly exported from this to Upper Burma, so that really the amount available for export to China depends mainly on the trade with Upper Burma. These soft-grained rices though they will bear export to China, deteriorate rapidly in transit and will not bear shipment to Europe, and this probably is the explanation of the low rates fetched by Saigon and Bangkok rice in Europe. If our sales to Upper Burma are very large, there is little of the soft-grained rice for export; if, on the other hand, the Upper Burma markets are, as at present, well stocked, there is a considerable balance available at rates which will permit of shipment to the East.

Preferred to the kind of rice sent to China and that shipped to Europe.

If demand for Upper Burma is large there is but little rice for export to China.

Great increase in number of rice mills of late years.

405. There is probably no better indication of the opinions of those most competent to form an opinion on the stability and prospects of the rice trade, than the extent to which mercantile houses are prepared to risk their capital in erecting expensive mills with all the best steam machinery for cleaning rice. From the annexed table it will be seen that while in 1867 there were three such mills in Burma, there were in 1869 thirteen and in 1872 twenty-six mills. When it is remembered that a first class mill will cost something like £30,000, an idea of the amount of capital which is now being sunk in the trade can be formed.

Number of steam rice mills in British Burma.

Years.	Ashan.	Pegu.	Tanasserim.	Total.
1867	1	2	1	3
1868	1	6	1	8
1869	1	11	1	13
1870	1	17	2	20
1871	1	17	3	21
1872	2	15	3	26



Statement showing shipments of rice during the last ten years.

406. The following statement gives the shipments from British Burma during the past ten official years :—

Years.	Arakan.	Rangoon.	Bassein.	Tenasserim.	Total British Burma.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1862-63	115,175	108,913	38,629	21,501	284,218
1863-64	152,636	170,077	29,356	16,113	378,282
1864-65	121,077	259,270	61,221	25,046	466,614
1865-66	130,672	203,125	62,649	40,951	437,397
1866-67	81,601	107,858	94,680	32,102	286,241
1867-68	97,678	163,142	37,160	27,735	325,715
1868-69	111,192	244,510	60,349	29,858	446,109
1869-70	69,785	161,944	51,063	27,429	310,221
1870-71	123,271	220,101	44,281	42,038	430,691
1871-72	166,894	267,015	56,274	60,381	550,564

Decrease in shipments from Arakan.

407. Arakan is the only division in which a falling off took place in the year under review as compared with the year immediately preceding, but this is more a matter of detail as to time than an actual decrease in the shipments for the season, as the exports during the first quarter of the financial year 1872-73 were upwards of 31,000 tons in excess of those for the same quarter in 1871-72. The crop in Arakan was exceedingly good, and in consequence prices were kept by the merchants at a very moderate figure. The shipments from Pegu showed a large increase. The harvest appears to have been generally satisfactory, notwithstanding the heavy inundations which prevailed in July and August 1871, whereby much land, especially in the Myanounge district, was placed out of cultivation; prices were very moderate, and it is hoped the results have been satisfactory to shippers. Certainly the prolongation of the season far into the rains would seem to warrant such an expectation. In Tenasserim (Moulmein) the increase was also very satisfactory, and the total results of the year were almost one-third more than in any other year of the decade.

Large increase in shipments from Pegu and Tenasserim.

Shipments to Indian and Provincial Ports about the same, but large increase in shipments to Foreign Ports.

408. The shipments to the Indian and Provincial ports were about the same in the year of review as in that immediately preceding, the decrease being 867 tons only. To the Foreign ports however, there was a

very large increase, the exports in 1870-71 having been 415,664 tons and in 1871-72, 463,691 tons. The largest comparative increase was to the Straits and China, the quantities being 62,240 tons and 106,514 tons respectively, but the shipments to Europe showed an improvement of 3,754 tons, and still further progressed as the season of 1872 advanced, the shipments in the first quarter of 1872-73 having been 217,101 tons, against 116,627 tons in April, May and June 1871, and 152,552 tons during the same months in 1870.

409. On the whole therefore, the rice trade of the Province may be said to be in a satisfactory condition. Shipments to Europe, the great mart for the grain, are increasing year by year, yet the prices in the local markets are kept moderate, and as there are generally good harvests, and more land is being brought under cultivation every year, both producer and purchaser appear to be satisfied. The demand for the grain in Europe is no doubt almost unlimited if it can be delivered at a sufficiently low price, and there seems no reason to doubt that it will be possible to continue the shipments of rice at prices sufficiently low to remunerate the shippers, and to leave a fair profit to the cultivators.

Satisfactory condition of the rice trade.

410. It is satisfactory to observe, that the trade in timber has changed from a decrease to an increase, the shipments during the year of report and the previous one having been 87,545 tons of the value of £551,210, and 81,029 tons of the value of £484,219, respectively, an increase of 6,516 tons and of £66,991, with an enhanced declared value per ton of about 6s. From Arakan the exports were 52 tons against 296 tons; from Pegu 30,286 tons against 25,468 tons; and from Tenasserim 57,207 tons against 54,292 tons: whilst the shipments to the Indian ports were 42,340 tons against 47,197 tons; to Foreign ports 42,539 tons against 32,832 tons; and to Provincial ports 2,666 tons against 1,000 tons—the exports to Europe thus showing the greatest improvement.

Increase in the timber trade.



Improved arrangements for the government of the Salween Tracts.

411. In the last month of the year, improved arrangements for the government of the Salween Tracts, which include the whole of the Yonzaleen, with the western bank of the Salween from Kaukariet to the British boundary in latitude  $18^{\circ} 38'$ , were initiated by forming this portion of the country into a separate district and placing a special officer in charge. It is hoped that by this means a much closer supervision will be exercised over this disturbed tract, and that in course of time dacoity which has been so rife there, and so detrimental to the traffic in timber, will be reduced to a minimum. It is further hoped that the officer in charge by bringing his influence to bear on the hitherto lawless petty officials who, as the alleged representatives of the Chiefs of Western Karennee and Zimme, range the left bank of the Salween and its eastern tributaries, may be able to mitigate at least the bad treatment received at their hands by the Foresters working in that part of the country. The reports of the current year show that the policy thus introduced has already been successful beyond all expectation.

Policy thus introduced already successful.

Quantity and value of cotton exported by Sea.

412. The shipments of cotton showed a most extraordinary increase as compared with previous years, the quantity having been 132,192 maunds, against 98,163 maunds in 1870-71, and an aggregate of 211,127 maunds in the preceding four years. Five-sixths of the quantity exported during the year under review were received from Upper Burma, mostly no doubt, from the King's Agents in payment for machinery and other articles contracted for by European merchants. The shipments to Indian ports fell off greatly, only 12,264 maunds having been sent to those ports, against 27,084 maunds in 1870-71. To Foreign ports however, chiefly to Europe, the demand for the Straits and China having been considerably less than in the previous year, 168,669 maunds were shipped in the year of report against 68,109 maunds in the year preceding. With the inter-provincial ports there was also a decreased trade, 1,259 maunds only against 2,970. The imports from Ava increased by 79,977 maunds.

413. There was a slight increase in the quantity of *cutch* exported, but a decrease in the declared value, the shipments in 1870-71 having been 226,609 maunds of the value of £120,299, and in 1871-72, 230,416 maunds valued at £116,022. The shipments of *cutch* to the Indian, Foreign and Provincial ports were about the same as those in the previous year, those to India having been 2,445 maunds less, those to Europe and the Eastern ports 4,822 maunds more, and those to the Provincial ports 1,430 maunds in excess. In the quantity of *cutch* imported from Upper Burma during the year there was a falling off of 20,308 maunds as compared with 1870-71, but in value a slight increase took place. The manufacture within British territory must therefore have greatly increased, and this was no doubt due to many of those formerly engaged in the manufacture beyond the frontier having crossed over and resumed their work in Thayet and Toungoo.

414. The imports of *betelnut* showed a very large falling off both in quantity and value, the trade for the two years having been 201,911 maunds valued at £152,663, and 179,473 maunds valued at £110,063. At the same time the exports to Upper Burma increased to the extent of 5,435 maunds, with a decrease in value of £10,997. It would appear that the local markets were overstocked by the large importations in 1869-70 and 1870-71, and that prices have been reduced in consequence.

415. The trade in *cotton twist and yarn* fell off to the extent of 1.49 per cent in quantity, but increased by a trifling sum in value, which shows that prices were well sustained. The figures for the two years are as follows:—

	lbs.	£.
1870-71	3,545,943	364,911
1871-72	3,493,091	366,165
Decrease	52,852	Increase 1,254

Cotton twist and yarn.



416. Into the Arakan division 227,095 lbs. were imported in the latter year, against 220,528 in the former; into Pegu 2,937,905 lbs. against 2,987,440 lbs., the exports to Upper Burma having been 1,596,988 lbs. and 2,019,036 lbs. respectively; and into Tenasserim 328,091 lbs. against 337,975 lbs. The imports from India again decreased considerably viz: from 1,087,178 lbs. in 1870-71, to 910,052 lbs. in 1871-72; whilst those from Foreign ports increased from 2,245,734 lbs. in the former year to 2,368,183 lbs. in the latter. The transactions between the Provincial ports varied but slightly. The market in Rangoon appears to have been pretty steady throughout the year with a slightly improved position towards its close.

Increase in importation of Gunny bags.

417. Consequent on the increased demand for grain a larger importation of *gunny bags* took place than in any previous year; 5,721,964 bags were imported in the year of report of the value of £181,045, whilst in the previous year 4,296,032 only were imported, the value being £133,756. The imports into Arakan were in the former year 1,182,924 bags valued at £37,234, and in the latter 1,324,400 of the value of £40,577; into Pegu 3,996,010 of the value of £125,188, and 2,656,262 of the value of £82,477, respectively; and into Tenasserim 543,030 valued at £18,623, and 315,370, valued at £10,702. The trade was of course almost exclusively with Calcutta where gunny-cloth is manufactured in enormous quantities both in private mills and in the jails.

All descriptions of piece goods showed an increase.

418. All descriptions of *piece-goods* showed an increase in the year of report—cotton to the extent of 19·10 per cent in quantity, and 12·38 per cent in value; silk 100·34 per cent in quantity and 52·63 per cent in value; and woollen 324·18 per cent in quantity and 16·49 per cent in value. A much larger number of pieces of all the principal kinds was cleared through the Custom houses during the year of report than in previous years, with the exception of 1868, although the markets for cotton

and woollen goods appear to have been quiet; silk goods however sold briskly, especially at the time of the "Htee" festival in Rangoon. The great increase in the imports of the latter would seem to indicate that the people are now better able to afford to purchase these goods than formerly.

419. The following statement gives the statistics of trade in manufactured *cotton goods* during 1870-71 and 1871-72:—

Statistics of trade in cotton goods.

Divisions.	1870-71.		1871-72.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Pieces.	Value £.	Pieces.	Value £.	Pieces.	Value £.	Pieces.	Value £.
Arakan.	150,259	79,159	211,534	95,542	56,275	16,383	..	..
Pegu.	1,256,752	429,540	1,332,924	439,734	276,171	62,801	..	..
Tenasserim.	284,505	90,200	278,837	86,147	..	4,947	10,008	..
Total.	1,691,517	598,902	1,823,295	621,423	322,778	74,231	..	..

420. Of *silk goods* the imports were in 1870-71, 358,680 pieces valued at £226,302, and in 1871-72, 718,592 pieces of the value of £345,422. Arakan took of this class of goods 13,363 pieces in the former year, and 24,766 pieces in the latter; Pegu 264,009 pieces and 588,396 pieces; and Tenasserim 81,308 pieces and 105,430 pieces.

Silk goods.

421. The trade in *woollens* showed a large, in fact an unprecedented and unaccountable increase in the number of pieces; the imports in the year of report having been 179,178 pieces, against 42,241 in 1870-71, and an average of 39,752 pieces in the preceding four years. This large increase was entirely in Rangoon, there having been a slight falling off both in Arakan and Tenasserim. The majority of the pieces imported into the chief port of the Province must have been of much smaller length than those of previous years, for it appears that during the calendar year 1871, 486,944 yards of woollens, broad-cloths and flannels were cleared through the Custom

In woollen goods a very large increase in quantity.



house, whilst in 1870 the quantity so cleared with an import in the official year 1870-71 of 32,339 pieces, was 446,734 yards; and in the two years immediately preceding viz. 1868 and 1869, the quantities cleared were 487,627 yards and 428,487 yards respectively. The increase in value was by no means in proportion to the increase in the number of pieces, for the value in 1870-71 was £75,862, and in 1871-72, £88,372, an increment of £12,510, only.

Piece-goods  
from whence  
imported.

422. From the Indian ports 476,434 pieces of cotton goods were imported in the year under review, against 456,691 in the preceding year; from Foreign ports 1,331,880 pieces against 1,003,610 and from Provincial ports 209,981 pieces against 234,216. Of silk goods the imports from the first named ports were 404,653 against 159,055 pieces, a large number of country-made handkerchiefs having been imported from Calcutta; from the second 224,153 against 154,822 pieces; and from the third 89,786 against 44,803 pieces. Of woollen goods 19,439 against 10,071 pieces were received from India; 155,793 against 25,390 pieces from Europe; and the inter-provincial transactions were 3,946 against 6,780 pieces.

Large increase  
in import of  
Salt.

423. In salt also there was a large increment, the quantities being 261,919 cwt. in 1870-71 and 338,696 cwt. in 1871-72. During the calendar year 1868, 5,041 tons only of European salt were cleared through the Rangoon Custom house. In the following year the quantity so cleared was 6,747 tons, in 1870 it had increased to 12,434 tons, and in 1871 to 15,270 tons, whilst during the first seven months of 1872 no less than 17,660 tons were cleared. These figures show the great impetus that has been given to this trade of late years. During the last year large shipments have been made per steamer to Upper Burma for the markets beyond the frontier up to Bhamo, from which place it is believed large supplies are sent to the northern and eastern Shan States, and to Western China.

424. The trade in *raw silk* again showed a large increase, the quantity imported in 1871-72 having been 139,986 lbs. against 107,543 lbs. in the previous year with a declared value in the last named year of £42,456, and in the year under review of £55,907. The principal portion of the increase was of course into Rangoon from whence large quantities are exported to Upper Burma, but there was a slight improvement in the Akyab imports. Tenasserim however again experienced a decrease. The exports to Upper Burma were not so great in proportion as in the previous year.

Increase in raw  
silk.

425. In the Inland trade a slight falling off took place as compared with the trade of the previous year, the aggregate in 1871-72 having amounted to £2,319,983 against £2,341,009 in 1870-71. The exports decreased to the extent of £111,089, whilst the imports increased by £90,063, the net falling off being £21,026. The large decrease in exports is due to a much smaller quantity of rice having been sent across the frontier than in the previous year, owing to the excellent harvests in Upper Burma itself, and to the large stocks remaining in the King's granaries from the purchases made by his Agents in British Burma during 1870-71. So far as the financial interest of the country are concerned, this decrease in export of rice to Upper Burma is a matter of congratulation, as that trade gives no return in the shape of duty, while it leaves a larger portion of the crop available for export to duty paying ports. Of the other principal articles of export, cotton twist and yarn, ngapee, cotton and silk piece-goods, salt and raw silk, increased to the extent of £152,500; and betelnut, crockery-ware, woollen piece-goods, and miscellaneous goods decreased by just £73,333. In the imports, every article excepting cutch, grain, lacquered-ware, metalware, timber and miscellaneous, exhibited an increase.

Slight decrease  
in inland trade  
owing to a  
falling off in  
demand for rice.

426. It is gratifying to observe that the traffic *via* Toungoo, showed an increase in the year of report, after a decrease in 1868-69, 1869-70 and

Trade in Toungoo  
showed an  
increase.



1870-71. The exports improved to the extent of about £10,000, chiefly in ngapee, and cotton and silk piece-goods, and the imports to the extent of £17,500, principally in sassamum oil, sticklac, and miscellaneous produce. The great want of this route, is a speedy and safe means of communication with Rangoon. At present Toungoo is at least 13 days distance from Rangoon, and is reached through the Pegu river, the Pyne-kyun and Khayazoo creeks and the Sittoung river, the creeks being navigable only at spring tides except in the height of the rains. The Khayazoo creek debouches on the Sittoung, low down towards the mouth of that river, and is therefore within the influence of the bore which rushes up with great force, rendering the navigation extremely unsafe, it not unfrequently happening that boats are swamped, even when anchored at some distance from the junction; the lower portion of the Sittoung is also very shallow, and large boats are generally detained for the tide in the dry season. The construction of a canal from a point higher up the Sittoung to the Khayazoo creek at some distance from its mouth, would enable boats to escape both the bore and the shallows; the cost of such a cutting would not be heavy, whilst its advantages would be very great. There is a vast tract of country to the eastward of Toungoo inhabited by Karens and Shans, which would no doubt send its produce to that station, if there were facilities for disposing of it, and conveying it to a shipping port; and at the same time goods of European manufacture and other articles, would be purchased to a much greater extent, since with improved direct communication they could be obtained at cheaper rates than at present, when much of the imports are conveyed across the country eastward from the Irrawaddy, that route being preferred to the existing tedious one *via* Pegu and Shwè-gyen.

Direct trade  
via, etmyo.

427. The export trade *via* Thayetmyo, decreased by about £120,000, and the import trade increased by £72,500. The value of the trade through Thayetmyo by the Irrawaddy, is about 13½ times that

through Toungoo, and it is believed that in addition to the river traffic a considerable trade is carried on by land across the Thayet frontier.

428. Much of the merchandise shown under the inland trade is also included in the sea-borne trade, for almost all, if not all, the cotton, twist and yarn, piece-goods, and crockery-ware, and a good deal of the salt and raw silk exported to the countries beyond the frontier are imported into Pegu from Europe and elsewhere, whilst the chief portion of the cotton, catch, hides, jade stone and timber imported from Ava is exported from Rangoon.

Much of the merchandise shown under the inland trade included also in sea-borne trade.

429. An increase again took place in the quantity of goods cleared through the Rangoon Custom house at one per cent duty for export to Upper Burma, as will be seen from the following statement, which gives particulars of the goods so cleared during the last five years:—

Increase in value of goods cleared under the treaty for Upper Burma.

Description.	1867-68.	1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.
	Value £	Value £	Value £	Value £	Value £
Cotton Piece-goods ..	..	24,000	44,540	55,940	111,000
Silk do. ..	2,000	6,135	9,025	25,500	45,728
Woolen do. ..	..	74	475	7,941	10,811
Raw Silk ..	..	5,769	19,744	10,811	13,004
Cotton Twist and Yarn ..	..	5,290	49,351	51,915	55,094
Spirits ..	500	404	1,400	1,657	1,900
Wines ..	23	32	21	203	151
Salt, Europe ..	..	60	..	..	11,728
Metals, exclusive of Machinery ..	..	493	1,419	9,006	5,515
Samdries ..	2,883	63	9,784	11,915	9,620
Total..	3,500	43,112	140,189	208,836	222,606

430. It is satisfactory to observe that there is a decrease in the value of raw silk, spirits and wines, as it is believed that in previous years much of these articles though ostensibly exported to Ava was really only taken just across the frontier, and from thence smuggled into British territory. The duty on the goods cleared under this arrangement in the year of report amounted to £3,321, whilst if they had been cleared for "Home consumption" the collections

Decrease in value of raw silk, spirits and wines satisfactory.



would have been about £17,000. The difference between these two sums however is not, it is believed, realized as profit by the importer, but is allowed to the purchaser.

#### K.—Charitable Institutions.

431. There are 14 Charitable dispensaries in the Province, established at the principal towns.

432. The total number of persons treated during the past year was:—

In-door patients	...	...	...	3,678
Out-door	„	...	...	45,341
Total				49,019

The most prevalent diseases treated were fevers, diarrhoea, dysentery, wounds and injuries, and ulcers and abscesses.

433. The following figures shew the number of deaths among the patients:—

Among In-door patients	...	...	354
„ Out-door	„	...	23
Total			377

or 76 per cent of the total number treated.

434. The income of these institutions was as below noted:—

Cost of establishment paid for by Govt.	£1,484
Subscriptions and donations ... ..	690
	<hr/>
Total	£2,174

435. It has been mentioned in previous year's reports that the establishment at Rangoon of a Medical College for Burmese lads is a great desideratum. It would tend in some measure to make our Charit-

able dispensaries more popular than they now are. At present the Hospital Assistants in Burma are all natives of India, and it is not to be expected that the people have the same confidence in them as they would have in their own countrymen. The people of Burma have no caste prejudices, and it is almost certain that they would gladly avail themselves of an opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of European medical science, and thus be the means of bringing its benefits home to their countrymen. The subject is now under consideration, in connection with the establishment of a High school in Rangoon.

436. During the year 1871, Lock-Hospitals were established at the stations of Akyab, Rangoon, Moulmein and Thayetmyo. From the annual reports which have been received, these institutions appear to have worked well, and to have been attended with beneficial results.

#### Electric Telegraph.

437. As noted in last year's report the Electric Telegraph Department in this Province is divided into two divisions; the report on the Arakan division has not yet been received, therefore the following remarks refer only to what is termed the Burma division.

438. During the last working season the line between Rangoon and Pegu was reconstructed. From Rangoon to Thoukyan, 21½ miles, the wire is insulated, and supported on the same posts as the new line between Rangoon and Prome, which is carried along the Prome road. Between Thoukyan and Pegu, a new line has been constructed along the Pegu road. This section is uninsulated, but the remainder of the line into Shwe-gyen from Pegu is insulated. The old line, which this replaces, is now being dismantled.

439. Between Pegu and Shwe-gyen the line (which is now carried to Thayethamine where it



crosses the Sittang River, and thence into Shwe-gyen, supported on the same posts as the Moulmein to Shwe-gyen line) should be removed to the road lately commenced, as soon as this is completed.

Delay in completion of Rangoon and Prome line.

440. The completion of the new line along the Prome road, between Rangoon and Prome, has been delayed by the contractors having failed to deliver the posts in proper time. Before the last South-West monsoon only 1,350 posts were procured (of which 450 only were from the contractors.) These were erected up to the 70th mile. This season the line, with the exception of about 20 miles, has been completed. Posts for the gap were only delivered in March, and are now being erected. The line will probably be open by the end of April.

Improvements to existing lines suggested and approved.

441. During the year the following improvements to existing lines were suggested, and approved by the Director General, and estimates for the works submitted:—

(1.) The removal of the line from Henzada to Myanoung, to the Irrawaddy Embankment, to include the removal of the masts at Kemendine to the Bassein River, where it is crossed in this section; the present masts being too low.

(2.) The erection of a second wire from Padoung to Prome, insulated, on the same posts as the present line, with a cable or span across the Irrawaddy at Prome. This will allow of the Padoung office being closed.

Duration of interruptions.

442. The duration of interruptions has decreased from 1870-71, by 2 days and 5 hours. Interruptions caused either maliciously or from culpable carelessness, have been rather numerous this year. On the Myanoung to Padoung section, the only interruption during the year was caused by a large tree being felled across the wire, probably by a Burman from the nearest village. Between Henzada and Myanoung the line was cut in three places, a few feet apart, near the village of Okpho. Between Prome

and Thayetmyo, the line was put into connection with the iron roof of the cable house. This was probably done by one of the cable guards discharged a few days before. Between Rangoon and Henzada a large quantity of straw was stacked in a paddy field, almost under the wire, and was burnt, probably accidentally, and the wire broken. There was plenty of room in the field to make the stack clear of the line. On the new line along the Prome road the wire was cut near Menhla, and trees felled across it; once not far from Rangoon; again near Thoukyan, smashing brackets and insulators; and again near Yatho but doing no damage. On the section Rangoon to Thoukyan, 70 per cent of the contact preventors have been pulled up, and more or less the wire taken away.

443. Estimates for new buildings for the department at Toungoo, Shwe-gyen and Prome, were sanctioned during the year. That at Prome was commenced, and will probably be completed in a few weeks. Those at Toungoo and Shwe-gyen will not be ready for some months.

New buildings required.

A new building at Thayetmyo is also required and when sanctioned, should be erected outside the redoubt. The position of the present office inside is objectionable in many ways.

Some alterations in the Rangoon office have also been suggested, a stair-case in front, and partitions in the large rooms and bath-rooms for married men.

444. The returns annexed, shew an increase over 1870-71, in the number of messages originating in the division, of 2,486, or nearly 8 per cent, and in the number received into the division of 3,229, or a little more than 10 per cent.

Increase in number of messages.

445. The fees collected this year amounted to Rs. 1,50,267 against Rs. 1,23,336 in 1870-71. Of this Rs. 78,829 is to the credit of the Indian Govern-

Increase in the amount of fees realized.



ment Telegraph Department, against Rs. 71,110, in 1870-71, and the balance to the cable companies.

The increase is chiefly in the Rangoon office where the number of original messages has increased from 18,745 to 21,111; the number received from 18,151 to 20,390; and the fees collected, from Rs. 96,234 to 1,21,566.

No decrease in fees in consequence of the introduction of new tariff.

446. The fees collected since the introduction of the new tariff in January last, amount to Rs. 55,011 on 10,157 messages, against Rs. 44,415 on 9,357 messages, during the same period in 1870-71. From this it would appear that the increased tariff does not prevent the public using the Telegraph as freely as formerly, as the increase in the number of messages is more than 8.5 per cent, or above that of the whole year.

Expenditure.

447. The total expenditure in signal offices, including salaries, allowances and all charges, excepting those against sanctioned estimates, amount to Rs. 58,356 against Rs. 57,370 in 1870-71. The increase is due to the annual increments to the signalling branch and the re-employment of signallers who left the department some time ago.

Reading classes.

448. The Reading classes have been kept up during the year and are doing much good. Some of the steadiest signallers are acquiring a fair knowledge of Electricity, and there are none who do not know more about it than they did before the classes were commenced. The subject might be made more interesting by a few simple instruments being supplied for experiments, and to exhibit the various phenomena alluded to in works on Electricity and Magnetism.

Instruction of soldiers in Army telegraphy.

449. During the year there were seventeen soldiers under instruction, six at Rangoon, seven at Thayetmyo, and four at Toungoo. Of these, only seven qualified and two are still attending. One was transferred to India, one sent back to duty for absence without leave, and six sent back to duty as not able to qualify. The scheme, considering its importance in a military point of view, has not worked as satisfactorily

torily as could be wished. It would appear that the men sent for instruction in Telegraphy, were not sufficiently educated to qualify. It would be well if some standard of qualification were fixed for those selected for instruction in Army Telegraphy.

### Post Office.

450. The Mail between Calcutta and this Province is carried by the steamers of the B. I. S. N. Company under contract with Government. There is a weekly line of steamers between Calcutta and Moulmein, calling at Rangoon, and every alternate week at Akyab; the steamers of this line, once every four weeks run on from Moulmein to the Straits Settlements; there is a fortnightly steamer between Calcutta and Akyab, calling in at Chittagong, and running on to Kyauk-pyoo throughout the year and to Sandoway from November to May; a steamer also plys once a month between Moulmein and the southern ports of Tavoy and Mergui.

Mail service between Calcutta and Burma.

451. A steamer runs between Rangoon and Madras once every four weeks, chiefly for the convenience of the Military department as the Province is garrisoned by Madras troops.

Communication between Rangoon and Madras.

452. The steamers of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, under contract with the Local Administration, run weekly from Rangoon to Mandalay, calling at the intermediate stations of Henzada, Myanong, Prome, and Thayetmyo, and once in four weeks to Bhamo. The postal communication in the interior of the Province is principally carried on in boats; and only a few land dāk lines have yet been established.

Communication with stations on the Irrawaddy, Mandalay and Bhamo.

453. The following statement shows the number of letters, parcels, books and newspapers received at, and despatched from the several Post offices in the Province during the years 1870-71 and 1871-72:—

Postal Statistics.



Division.	RECEIVED.				DESPATCHED.				REMARKS.
	1870-71.		1871-72.		1870-71.		1871-72.		
	Number of Letters of every description.	Number of Parcels, Books and Newspapers.	Number of Letters of every description.	Number of Parcels, Books and Newspapers.	Number of Letters of every description.	Number of Parcels, Books and Newspapers.	Number of Letters of every description.	Number of Parcels, Books and Newspapers.	
Pegu	355,799	134,370	395,784	141,238	380,723	91,338	408,634	94,969	
Tenasserim	99,424	33,543	100,630	34,462	97,715	8,761	96,182	9,236	
Arakan	57,310	27,636	61,358	27,888	91,688	26,690	89,275	29,922	
Mandalay and Bhamo	6,082	3,691	9,120	4,588	4,963	183	6,814	140	
Port Blair and Camorta.	19,311	5,425	18,544	5,519	23,137	68	21,286	578	Camorta returns not received.
Total	538,926	204,561	585,656	214,488	508,236	127,646	622,494	135,335	

Total number of covers Received during	1870-71	743,554
Do. do. do.	1871-72	800,143
	Increase	56,579

Total number of covers Despatched during	1870-71	723,973
Do. do. do.	1871-72	757,820
	Increase	31,957

Total number of covers that passed through the Post Offices in British Burma, (including those received for delivery and posted for despatch) during	1870-71	1,467,436
Do. do. do.	1871-72	1,557,672
	Total Increase	89,596

454. The increase in the number of letters, parcels, books and newspapers received in 1871-72 as compared with 1870-71, was, letters 46,659 or 8 per cent; parcels, books, &c. 9,920 or 4 per cent; while the increase in the number despatched during the same period was, letters 24,268 or 4 per cent; parcels, books &c. 7,689 or 6 per cent.

#### IV.—STATISTICS OF INSTRUCTION.

##### A.—Ecclesiastical.

455. There are two Anglican Churches in Rangoon, one in the Town and one in the Cantonment;

Anglican Churches.

also one in Moulmein, and one at Toungoo, to each of which a Chaplain of the Bengal Presidency is attached. There are also Anglican Churches at Akyab, and Thayetmyo; a Clergyman belonging to the additional Clergy Society is attached to the former, and a Clergyman of the S. P. G. is temporarily attached to the latter Church. The Chaplain of Moulmein occasionally visits the Southern districts of Tavoy and Mergui. The Chaplain at Toungoo visits Shwe-gyen, while the Chaplain at Rangoon Cantonment visits Bassein once in every six months. The stations on the Irrawaddy are visited by one of the Clergymen of the S. P. G., residing at Rangoon.

456. There are Roman Catholic Churches at Rangoon, and in the other principal stations in the Province, and also several American Baptist Churches in which service is performed both in English and in the Vernacular.

Other Churches.

457. The American Baptist Missionaries have established Missions almost all over the Pegu and Tenasserim Divisions, and have met with much success among the Karens, many of whom have been converted and have Karen pastors attached to them.

American Baptist Missionaries.

458. The Roman Catholic Church has an old established Mission in Pegu, and a large number of Missionaries are employed throughout the Province. This Mission is presided over by the Right Reverend Bishop Bigandet.

Roman Catholic Mission.

##### B.—Education.

459. Neither during the past nor in previous years has education under our system of administration made any great progress in Burma. Fortunately the people have a system of primary education of their own in the monastic schools, which has prevented education from dying out of the land. Setting

Small progress in education under the English system.



aside these schools, the educational machinery of the Province consists of seven Government schools, educating only 505 boys,—and the teaching in these schools has, till lately, been of the most inferior and desultory description—; fifteen aided missionary schools, teaching 1,494 pupils; and 22 other unaided schools, teaching 499 pupils, which were so far under Government supervision that they were examined by Government officers, prizes being given to successful boys. Of the above pupils even a great number are children of European descent, and out of the 2,456 children educated directly by, or with the aid, or supervision of Government, no less than 1,682 are children of the two towns of Rangoon and Moulmein, leaving 774 only as under instruction in connection with state machinery, in all other districts and towns of the country, having a population of 2,562,323 souls.

Statistics.

460. The usual statistics are shewn in the tabular form below :—

Districts.		NUMBER OF SCHOOLS.				PUPILS ATTENDING.			
		Private			Total	Private schools.			Total
		Government.	Missionary.	Other.		Government.	Missionary.	Other.	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Pegu	Rangoon	1	6	10	17	54	205	269	469
	Bassah	..	3	..	3	..	167	..	167
	Myingung	..	..	..	..	..	160	..	160
	Prima	1	..	2	3	60	..	..	60
TERRACERIM.	Thayemye	..	1	..	1	..	32	..	32
	Moulmein	1	2	2	5	121	220	102	443
	Tarey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Margal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
ARAKAN	Shwa-gren	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Tongoo	..	1	..	1	..	..	54	54
	Akyab	1	..	..	1	107	..	..	107
Total	Haikara	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..
	Sandway	..	..	2	2	..	..	30	30
Total		7	12	22	41	285	1,024	497	1,806

461. The revenue of British Burma, excluding purely local funds, during the year was Rs. 1,26,58,006 or Rs. 4-15-0 per head of the population. The assignment from general revenues for education, science and art during the year, was Rs. 1,06,130 or 0-83 per cent of the revenue, and 8 pies per head of the population of the Province. The income derived from local sources, chiefly fees and fines, exceeded the expenditure from Government revenues. As however the total assignment from the Provincial allotment was not spent, this does not so much evince a backwardness on the part of the State to contribute what is right and proper for the education of the people, as an incapacity on the part of the Education department to devise, up to the present time, any means of developing useful schemes for education.

Funds assigned for education.

462. In addition to the grant from the Provincial allotment there is another source of revenue from which the Education department derives considerable funds, namely the educational cess, which consists of a rate of one per cent on the land revenue. This fund has not been expended as liberally as it might have been for the benefit of the people; large balances have accumulated, and with the exception of the cost of the school for training vernacular masters, very little has been expended on the education of the people. The revenue from this fund during the year was Rs. 38,822; the expenditure, including collection and management, was Rs. 15,382; and the balance on the 1st April 1872 was Rs. 1,79,221.

Balance derived from the Cess.

463. The schools in British Burma have been very inappropriately divided by the Educational department into "high schools," "middle class schools" and "lower class schools."

Classes of Schools.

464. During the year there were five schools in the Province of the class here called high schools; of these two were exclusively for the education of European and Eurasians. Not one of these schools is really a high school, or in any way deserving the name; probably years hence some of them may be

High Schools.



comeso, but for the present they should receive some other and less misleading designation. The school of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel at Rangoon, is the only school which has yet attempted even to send up boys for the entrance standard, and all three of these failed. The Government high schools at Moulmein and Akyab, though both improving in a very marked manner under their new head masters, especially the Akyab school under Mr. Grey, are neither better nor worse than the ordinary zillah schools of India.

Proposed establishment of a Collegiate School.

465. The questions of the establishment of a real high school for British Burma, and of the fixing of a local standard for the schools of Burma in substitution of the Calcutta University entrance standard, have, for some time, occupied the attention of the Chief Commissioner, and he has already published a full exposition of his views on the subject in his Resolution on the report of Public Instruction for 1871-72; and it is to be hoped that the current year will not pass away without decided action being taken in the matter. The Chief Commissioner is of opinion that such a Collegiate school as he has there sketched out would have a very great effect, not only on the progress of education, but in time on the whole administration of the country. Selected boys might be sent up to the Rangoon school with scholarships from the districts; and if a well managed and economical boarding house were attached to the school, many of the officials and richer merchants and pleaders would send their sons there for education, in the hope that they would qualify for the public service, especially when they realize that for the future, hereditary claims to office will not be considered except when the candidate is thoroughly qualified in other respects.

Middle Class Schools.

466. There are 4 Government schools of the middle class and 12 aided. They are really very second rate anglo-vernacular schools, of which the worst, as usual, are the Government schools. It is true that these schools are now improving under the new

masters, who have been appointed to them during the past year. But it still seems open to grave doubt whether some of the Government middle class schools might not with advantage be closed, if only masters could be obtained for the purpose of superintending really superior vernacular schools in their place. At Shwe-gyen there was only a daily average attendance of 47 boys, educated very badly in English, at an expense to Government of Rs. 3,360. The total cost of educating each boy was no less than Rs. 84-9-9 per annum. The Chief Commissioner cannot help thinking that this money might have been very much more profitably expended by giving a really good vernacular education to a much larger number of boys, leaving those whose position in life made it essential to them to acquire an English education to go to Moulmein or Rangoon, where they could be much better taught. As it was, these boys received a very inaccurate and deficient knowledge of English, which while it probably induced in their minds a sense of their fitness for Government employment and for nothing else, did not in any way really fit them for the public service.

467. During the past year the question of improving monastic schools, and establishing cess schools of a secular character, has largely engaged the attention of the local administration. The excellence of the existing monastic schools, for the purpose for which they were designed, has been frequently and freely admitted by the Chief Commissioner; but he is quite satisfied, as the result of careful enquiry from European and native officials of great experience, and from the people themselves, that something more is required for vernacular education than monastic schools, and that it is the positive duty of Government to expend the money collected under the educational cess in establishing vernacular schools in the large towns, giving an education of a very much higher standard than that which is provided by the Buddhist monks. He has already directed the Director of Public Instruction to prepare a scheme for such schools, where boys and girls shall be taught together in the larger

Cess Schools and Training Schools.



towns of Burma, beginning with those in which there are municipal funds. These schools however, may be erected partly from cess funds and partly from municipal funds. A small fee should be charged, for the Chief Commissioner does not consider that those who have contributed towards the educational cess are entitled to have their children educated free. If it were possible to give a free education from the fund to the children of all who have contributed towards the cess, there might be some force in the argument; but seeing how few schools of this sort it will be possible to establish, it is only right that those who have the benefit of them should pay something for that benefit, beyond what is paid by the community at large. The levy office would also have the effect of avoiding too great an appearance of competition with the neighbouring monasteries, which would retain the advantages of a gratuitous education. So far from schools of this sort having an injurious effect on the monastery schools, the Chief Commissioner believes that they would have the contrary effect. They would not only act as a stimulus to the monastic teachers to improve their system, and to endeavour to keep pace with these new schools, but they would educate boys, many of whom would eventually become Phoo-gyees, and be able to introduce into the monastery schools whatever of good they may have learnt at the municipal or cess school.

468. As regards monastic schools, the present Chief Commissioner has all along been of opinion that we have been endeavouring, unintentionally no doubt, to upset the present excellent system of monastic teaching, instead of conserving it; and that our object should be to revive these schools, and preserve them from further deterioration, rather than continue our fruitless attempts to adapt them to a standard unsuitable to the people of the country, and practically incapable of attainment by the present teachers.

469. The Chief Commissioner has accordingly sanctioned the introduction of a system under which the

existing Deputy Inspectors should act as Examiners only; and that their duties should not involve any interference with the monastic schools, but be strictly limited to periodical examinations, under which prizes either in money or books, together with certificates, should be granted to boys of different ages passing in certain standards. It is believed that this system is calculated very gradually, and perhaps for a year or two almost imperceptibly, to improve the teaching of these schools by introducing a spirit of emulation amongst them. If, however, it only keeps primary education at its present standard, it will have answered its purpose.

470. Contemporaneously with the introduction of this scheme, a plan is under preparation for aiding and inspecting secular primary schools. Another element of competition will thus be brought to bear on the monastic school, which cannot fail to have a beneficial effect upon them; if the standard of education is gradually raised in those schools which we can touch, it will by degrees permeate through the country and affect those over which our influence is less direct. In the larger villages, such for instance as Yandoon, Donabyo, Shwe-doung, Myanoung and other places in which there is a municipal fund, a still better class of purely vernacular schools is about to be established. The monastic schools alone will not supply the wants of the Province even in regard to primary education, and it was never expected or intended that they should do so. There is one great defect in any system under which such schools alone should be recognized, and that is that it leaves female education, which is not less important than male education, altogether out of consideration. Sir Arthur Phayre had remarked, in a memorandum written in England on 3rd February 1869, "that there are in the country small village schools, where boys and girls are taught together by respectable men and women." Sir Arthur Phayre considers that this would form a basis for a general system of education far more promising than by means of monastic schools.

Monastic  
Schools.

Examiners sub-  
stituted for De-  
puty Inspectors.

Secular schools,  
male and female.



Books and inspection.

471. The Chief Commissioner is anxious to improve the education carried on in the schools referred to, both by supplying books and by inspection. Mr. Eden entirely concurs with his illustrious predecessor, that with these schools aided, with the monastic schools officially supervised, and with the village schools established by the various missionary societies which have been aided for some years past, British Burma will be well provided with primary schools. He also has no doubt that under the system of examination and reward, an amount of emulation and interest will be created amongst the various Kyoungs, which will eventually lead the Phoongyees to adopt the best system of education which is available to them.

Introduction of the new system.

472. The Chief Commissioner has decided that it would be as well to introduce this system into one or two districts first, and possibly Rangoon, Akyab, Prome and Henzada, would be the best districts to commence upon; though having regard to the state of religious feeling in Akyab, he is not sure whether the time has not arrived there for the establishment of a larger number of primary secular vernacular schools. The population of Akyab is very mixed, and there is a large Mahomedan population whose educational wants are altogether, so far as can be learnt, entirely unprovided for. Then too in Cheduba there is a considerable population without, it is believed, either monastic schools or primary schools.

Land measuring.

473. In regard to schools for special training, the Chief Commissioner thinks that when the vernacular schools for large towns are established, the separate land measuring schools should be abolished entirely, as indeed they are already except in Akyab. Land measuring should be one of the subjects taught at the municipal schools.

### C.—Scientific and Literary.

474. The only literary society in the Province is <sup>Literary</sup> the "Rangoon Literary Society." It has an excellent library attached to it. Newspapers and periodicals are also received by the society. This institution received a grant-in-aid during the year under review of £30, and its income from subscriptions amounted to £122.

### 2.—The Press.

475. There are two daily, five bi-weekly, two <sup>Newspapers</sup> weekly and one fortnightly newspapers published in the Province. Of these three are in Burmese and the remainder in English. They are mainly for circulation in British Burma, and they treat principally of subjects affecting this Province. Some of the vernacular papers have a small circulation in Upper Burma.

476. The number of books published in English <sup>Number of books published.</sup> was 4 and in Burmese 8. Most of the books printed in the Province are in the Burmese or Karen languages, and have been generally published for missionary purposes.

## V.—STATISTICS OF LIFE

### Vaccination.

477. There was no change in the Vaccination <sup>Vaccination</sup> department during the year: it was under a General Superintendent assisted by two Native Superintendents, one at Moulmein and one at Rangoon, and by thirty Vaccinators, who were distributed throughout the Province, but were principally employed in the large Towns or in localities where the people applied for their services.



Statement showing the working of the department.

478. The results of the working of the Department during the year 1871-72, as compared with the previous year may be seen from the following statement :—

Operations.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.
Total number of people Vaccinated .. ..	9,250	23,144	14,773
Number of successful cases .. ..	7,273	18,101	9,149
Number of unsuccessful cases, including doubtful .. ..	2,077	4,762	5,624
Number of cases the result of which is unknown .. ..	..	281	..
Percentage of successful cases to total number of operations .. ..	77.76	78.66	61.9

Decrease in number of operations during the year.

479. These figures shew that there has been a total decrease in the number of operations of 9,008, and a decrease of 8,442 in the number of successful cases as compared with last year. It would seem therefore that the year's work was not satisfactory; but, from the fact that operations were confined as much as possible to towns and villages, where the results of the work done by the Vaccinators could easily be verified, this year's returns are probably more correct than those of former years.

Cost of the department.

480. The total cost of the Vaccine department during the past year was £842 against £736 9s, during the previous year, thus shewing an increased expenditure of £105 11s, on that account. The cost of each successful case was 1s 2d, while in 1870-71, it was 7½d. There was no epidemic of small pox during the year. The returns shew that of the total number of persons vaccinated, only 1,402 were children under the age of one year. This indicates clearly that there is a very strong objection amongst the Burmese to have young children vaccinated.

---

## APPENDIX.

---